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The Northwest

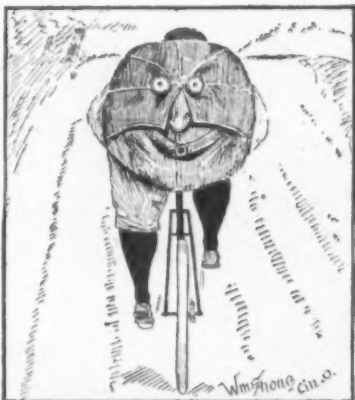


Published by E. V. SMALLEY, St. Paul, Minn. Two Dollars a Year. Twenty Cents a Copy.

In this issue:

By Surrey and Saddle in the Cascade Mountains.
St. Paul—The Capital of Minnesota in 1898.
The Frozen North.
John Dunsford's Wild-Goose Chase.

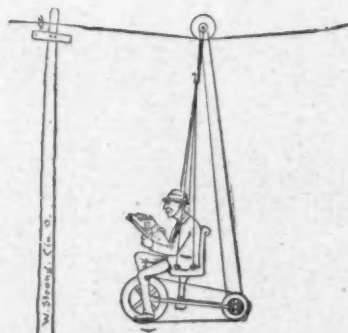
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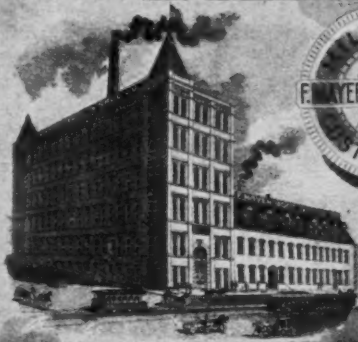
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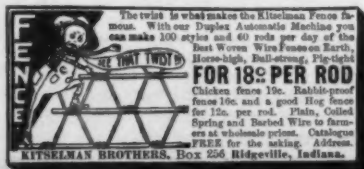
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THE NORTHWEST

Illustrated Monthly Magazine

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VOL. XVI.—No. 2.

ST. PAUL, FEBRUARY, 1898.

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BY SURREY AND SADDLE IN THE CASCADE MOUNTAINS.

By ALLEN A. BARTOW, with illustrations from photos by Carpenter of Tacoma and Mitchell of Puyallup, Wash.

"End of the road!" shouted the professor, riding with a splash through a pretty little stream and up the ridge to where Judge R— sat on his glossy-black thoroughbred gazing with animated features at the King of the Cascades, Mt. Rainier, 15,000 feet high, white and still, and some fifty miles distant.

"Yes, and it will be the end of one of us, if you don't stop your reckless dashing 'round on that brainless mustang! You are too unconventional for a man of your age and profession," responded the judge.

"I confess judgment, your honor, on the latter proposition, but shall sue out an injunction against your calling Kit a mustang; why, she's half-thoroughbred, and, as you have admitted on many a long ride before this, she can hold your black beauty level for a day or an hour or a dash. Come on, will you?"

"No; excuse me. I am thinking."

"Indeed! Are you really thinking? I beg your pardon for interrupting so delicate an experiment. But of what are you thinking?—of the beautiful landscape, or of some hard case or—"

"The former is nearest the mark. I am going up the mountain this summer with my family, and I wish you to join us."

"It's a bargain; when do you start?"

"In about four weeks."

"Very well, you may depend upon me."

And this settled the matter in true Western style. The two friends rode gayly back to Tacoma, chatting pleasantly and taking a dash now and then, as was their wont on their afternoon rides over the evergreen hills of Tacoma's picturesque suburbs, which look down upon the quiet waters of Commencement Bay.

Some three or four weeks later, a little past the middle of July, the party started. The judge and Miss R— occupied the high seat of a very large two-horse spring-wagon, which was loaded with necessities and dainties sufficient for a three-months' trip; the professor's wife, Mrs. R— and Frances rode in a surrey in advance, with a very careful driver and a large, speedy team; and the jolly old pedagogue, mounted on Kit, dashed here and there, back and forth and all 'round, wherever he could do the least good. It was late in the afternoon when the party started; so, in accordance with

some one's plan, they made the first camp at Spanaway Lake, a beautiful little sheet of water on the prairie ten miles from the city, where they were joined by other friends. After a hearty dinner all retired for the night, the nervous ones to listen for hours to the stamping and hay-munching horses, the more fortunate to enjoy the embraces of Morpheus.

An early morning start and a charming day's ride over smooth prairie roads, brought our party to the big Mashell River, a beautiful mountain-stream some twenty-five miles from Spanaway Lake, where camp number two was established with due ceremony and an eye to comfort.

Following a restful night, a lovely morning, with only a little too much smoke from forest fires in the balmy atmosphere, found the camp astir, and, after such a breakfast as one finds only in the rare environments of a dense fir forest, by an open fire near a crystal stream, and in jovial company, the party took up their third day's journey. Up, and up, and up, over corduroy roads and down again, till Mashell Mountain was passed and lunch-time found the climbers in a shady glen by a pretty trout-stream—with plenty of the speckled beauties to prove that the stream did the world some good before its clear, cold waters were mingled with the milky flood of the chalky-looking Nisqually River, which here runs fresh and icy, and but a few miles from its glacial source, swiftly down toward the waters of Puget Sound.

Lunch over, the men rode back to the hotel and general-supply store, a short distance away, and returned with their pockets full of sweetmeats for the ladies, and their saddle-horses looking like animated hay-stacks, under the stock of

coarse food for the teams. Then, with the rattle of wagon-wheels, the cheerful tones of manly banter, and the merry peals of feminine laughter, the train was off again—over the long avenue between the kingly firs that stretched away on either hand for miles and miles of plain and foothill terraces. Uphill and down, through beautiful mountain brooks, and over the pretty rustic bridges which span the larger streams, to the last camp en route; for the morrow would bring our merry party to Longmire's Springs, where the actual ascent of the mountain begins. Camp was made by a pretty stream, and ranch eggs, fresh milk, butter, vegetables, etc., were secured in abundance from "Carnahan's."

Carnahan, be it known, is a leading politician, and by some unexplained combination of circumstances the judge's good wife was quite tired out here, and a rest of several days seemed an imperative necessity; so the professor, with an unjust suggestion that somebody was going to fix up fences, bundled his outfit and his quiet little wife into the surrey and pressed forward toward the mountain—after a night of excitement during which a hungry mountain lion scared the horses into wild snorts of alarm, gave the ladies a nervous shock of considerable force, carried away a large piece of dried beef, and then silently fled before a barefooted pedagogue with a gun and a lantern.

How strangely different the approach to a mountain is from the ideas which one has in



IN CAMP, BEFORE MAKING THE ASCENT.

"Camp was made by a pretty stream, and ranch eggs, fresh milk, butter, vegetables, etc., were secured in abundance from 'Carnahan's.'"

childhood, or before one has had any experience in climbing one, or in crossing a range by means of one of our great overland railroads! You start almost within an hour's ride of the summit, it seems at first, and go on, and on, and on, losing sight of it now and again, until you have traveled for a day, more or less; and then, from that time forward, the chances are you may not see it again until you begin the actual ascent from some point in the foothills the second or third day after starting, according to the rate of speed you make and the distance to be traveled.

They tell a good one on Nelson Bennett, who, in his palmy days, owned the Tacoma Hotel. Wishing to have a little fun with a "tenderfoot" guest, he encouraged him to start for a morning walk to the mountain from that famous hostelry—loaning him an overcoat worth sixty dollars and a gun that was still more valuable, both of which the guest forgot to return! It is not stated how long he traveled toward the mountain, but it is freely conceded that he was not so green as he looked.

About noon of the fourth day, the remnant of the party, consisting of the professor, his wife, and the driver, arrived at Longmire's with no special incidents en route save passing the stage, which seemed to be keeping about even with most of its passengers, who were walking, and several bicyclists who were leading their wheels along with courageous perseverance.

"Great is the surrey!" said the teacher. And indeed it was, for it carried the party and the luggage through to the end without serious fatigue or accident. "But greater is the horse of the plains," declared the professor, whose mount carried him alongside in comfort and with dispatch, ready, when he was, to try the mountain trail toward the summit the next morning.

At Longmire's Springs, noted for the boiling fountains of differing degrees of offensive smell and healing power, several jolly parties from Tacoma and elsewhere were met with, and a sort of camp-fire rehearsal, at which Frank B. Cole, the humorist of the Pacific slope (Bill Nye on a larger scale, physically speaking), amused the party to such an extent that he was near making an engagement with the good

old father Longmire to furnish health-giving merriment every summer, as an auxiliary to the famous medicinal springs.

Morning found our party up in good season and the professor in the saddle ready for a trip to Paradise Valley and back over the real mountain trail up some 7,000 feet, with Judge Parker—an old mountain-climber and a member of the party, who had traveled a little ahead of the surrey contingent—as his guide and companion. A pleasant day was spent in going and coming, with a side-trip to the foot of Nisqually Glacier included. The wonderful power of nature's forces are strikingly demonstrated by the terminal moraine rocks that are here ground into all manner of forms, heaped in piles and windrows, and rent into great blocks with seams and crevasses into which whole trees have in places been forced by the forward movement of the glacier.

Many friends were gathered at this point, and as occasional slides from the ice above sent showers of little rocks down near the party, the funny man let himself loose in the following lines:

"The mighty works of nature
For a moment lost their charm.
When a rock rolled down the glacier
And struck Mrs. Blank-blank's arm."

Truth declares that it didn't strike her arm at all; but, kind critic, may we not apply poetic license, for once, to inspired doggerel,



BEAUTIFUL NARADA FALLS.

"Whose cold waters send their drifting spray across a chasm, making the precarious trail along the opposite bank so wet and muddy that corduroy roadways have to be maintained."

and trust that the offense will never be committed again?

The next morning after this exploring expedition to Paradise Valley, the professor and his wife took an early start for that romantic Mecca of the summer tourist. Her ladyship, mounted on Kit, was in a costume quite unusual for her, but one well suited to the manner in which she sat her horse, for it was a heavy '96 bicycle costume. The deep shade of giant firs hid the blushes that mantled her cheeks whenever the voices of tourists fell upon her ears. The professor walked behind, holding a line fixed to the saddle to aid him in keeping pace with the vigorous little mare up the numerous steep inclines—an average grade of 1,000 feet to the linear mile.

Above Longmire's, the trail rises slowly to the Nisqually River, a mile or so below where that wild stream starts from its icy source at the mouth of the glacier which bears its name. At the glacier's mouth, the river springs into life, as if at the summons of a fairy queen, from two broad ice arches under a wall of ice over a hundred feet high, a furlong wide, and clear as crystal save where the silt has smeared its surface or where rocks, trees and debris have covered it over. The river bed for twenty rods, as one approaches the bridge, is of boulders ground into round or oval forms by glacial movement and spring-time floods, and one can hear their companions in the stream undergoing the same process of reduction all day long. The rapid river often pushes them along with irresistible force for rods, while they yield to its action with an ominous growling which, on a still day, can be heard for a mile or more. Woe be to the unlucky horse or man who ever finds itself, or himself, in the stream struggling for a foothold to cross through the boiling, surging current!

Crossing in safety over the swaying timber-bridge, our couple scramble up the steep bank



GOING AROUND GIBRALTAR ROCK.

"The man or woman who has squirmed around Gibraltar Rock with a party, each member holding to a life-line and leaning on an alpine-stock, may have greater respect for the majestic old mountain, but I very much fear that love of it will grow less."

and wend their way onward toward Paradise River, along whose bank they wind up and up to the path that skirts a precipice overlooking the beautiful Narada Fall, whose cold waters send their drifting spray across a chasm, making the precarious trail along the opposite bank so wet and muddy that corduroy roadways must ever be kept in repair by workmen from the hotel below. The shy marmot now gives forth his plaintive whistle on the still air, grouse whirl up and away through the dense forest, and occasional snow-patches appear, though the season is midsummer. Paradise River is twice forded by the horse and rider, while the footman clammers over on cedar logs.

And now the lower valley opens to the view with its black, muddy stretches and its broad snow-fields, which melt and send their waters across the way in little, sparkling streams that are bordered with pretty buttercups and other flowers of remarkable beauty, such as one sees in spring-time on lower levels—rare ones, among which the beautiful purple and white heather become conspicuous far up the valley.

Kit, of course, gets a contrary streak now and then, just where the professor cannot easily get after her without wading, and she looks back in wonder at her burden, as much as to say, "Why do you sit so limp and irresolute? Give me a spur or a quirt, as the men do, and I will know that there is no danger ahead." Thus the climbing progresses until the valley, with its covering of snow—in places thirty feet deep, over which Kit walks with safety—is reached. Groves here and there, however, are free from snow, and flowers in infinite variety cover the feet of the scrubby firs. Camps appear in many places, and city friends greet the new-comers with words of cheer. Every camp has its toboggan, and over the clear, smooth courses the merry parties slide away half a mile in a single run, shouting in glee as they turn to climb for another race.

On invitation, our couple stop for a dinner the principal dish of which is the flesh of a mountain goat shot by some friends whose lusty limbs have carried them in successful pursuit of those hardy game animals, which live on the almost inaccessible portions of the mighty mountain. Animal life is not so plentiful here, but, strange as it seems to the novice, large green or black flies dart about on every side, teasing the horses and torturing the nervous humans,



MOUNT RAINIER FROM PARADISE VALLEY.

"Away at the head of the valley is the beautiful Sluiskin Fall; across Paradise River lies the long stretch of the Tatoosh Mountains; and over the Nisqually Glacier, near its source, so to speak, looms high and majestic, the dome of the grand old mountain."

who fight them off with their hands. The glare from the snow is another disagreeable feature; but the rare atmosphere is health-giving, and the newness of everything, together with the magnificent scenery, is inspiring. Away at the head of the valley is the beautiful Sluiskin Fall, like a silver bridal veil; across Paradise River lies the long stretch of the Tatoosh Mountains; and over the Nisqually Glacier, near its source, so to speak, looms high and majestic the dome of the grand old mountain, whose sturdy sides shake off a booming avalanche as our friends are at dinner.

The downward trip is more difficult for nervous persons than the upward one, but it is made with reasonable comfort; and those who have worn glasses to protect their eyes, find little inconvenience on the morrow save weary bones and muscles and burning faces from the sun's warm kisses, doubly powerful by reflection from the gleaming snow-fields of the valley.

A bountiful and incongruous meal is served in true farmer style at the Longmire Springs Hotel, and then, too tired to even discuss a proposed ascent on the morrow to the summit, our party retires to camp for the night. But one, at least, of these sleepers, wakes with an occasional start and gazes, with strained eyes, between the ears and over the depressed head of a sure-footed little horse, down an imaginary abyss into clear streams, or out upon cloud-floors of fleecy whiteness, until, with regained consciousness, cloud-fields develop into the sides of an innocent tent, keeping its silent, effectual watch between our travelers and the outer world, and abysses become but wrinkles in the covering blanket. Poor, tired head! How many a weary one might envy you the power to wake and thus dispel life's trials and remove an impending evil!

Morning brought an inspiring view of the mighty mountain, together with stories of its hidden grandness by Puyallup and Tacoma parties that had made the ascent before and were once more en route to "Liberty-Cap," where Old Glory's tattered remnants float on the rushing winds. Who will describe—who can describe, the mystic changes in the views which one gets of Mt. Rainier? Cold, gleaming white under a noonday sun, tinted with gold at sunset-time, capped at evening with a cloud caught on its summit, gray through a veil of mist; cut off as with a reaper's knife by a dark



ALMOST AT THE TOP.

"Where cold whirlwinds sigh around, avalanches boom, hurricanes awe, and men wonder why they came and how they are going to get down again."

and massive cloud which covers half its grand, symmetrical cone; or, most magnificent sight of all, holding a harvest moon upon its mighty shoulders, while the sage old man therein looks down the lovely Puyallup Valley at sleeping Tacoma City on her seven hills—the lovely city of terraced lawns, rose-bowers and ivy-mantled porches.

But—like some grand character in past history or in present life—Mt. Rainier, so magnificent in the distance, has many disagreeable points upon a closer acquaintance. The man or woman who has squirmed around Gibraltar Rock with a party, each member holding to a life-line and leaning on an alpine-stock; who has spent a night at Camp Misery, with cold whirlwinds sighing around and sifting sand over him, while colder avalanches were booming past; who has explored the ice-caves made by steam-jets in the crater of this still smouldering volcano, and who has at last stood in the usual hurricane on the summit, wondering how he could get down again and why he came—the man who has done all this, and much besides, may have greater respect for the majestic old mountain, but I very much fear that he will love it less.

We have carried our party to Paradise Park and safely back to Mt. Rainier's base with a faithful, and perhaps sometimes painful, regard for truth. We have secured pictures en route, and pictures away beyond the farthest point reached by our party, and now the hour of the writer's temptation has arrived. Must he spoil a possible story of an ascent to the summit? Shall he promise you a future story of a real summit ascent, or may he leave you the valley trip and these truthful impressions gathered from climbers whom he met on the banks of a pure little brook that never told a lie, but sang its rhythmic song to him during the pleasant days of rest before the home journey began? Irresolute he stands; but, if he falls, consider that you have had your own hours of trial, and have, perhaps, on rare occasions, yielded for the moment. If he rises in his manly might and tells a truthful tale, even to the bitter end, or forbears a false one, reward him with that welcome plaudit, 'well done, thou stale and truthful writer; enter into that realm of innocuous desuetude, where many once famous authors of proclamations have preceded better men than thou.'

IMMORTALITY.

Songs of nations, songs of glory, songs of stirring melody,
Born when history's page is gory, born in deep adversity,
Such will stir the heart of nations as no orator has done
With his fluent intonations, since the world was first begun:
Whirling, clashing,
Hurling, smashing,
Sounds of death and agony,
Ever to the winds unfurling
Flag of home and liberty.
And when peace has spread her pinions
Over land and over sea,
Will such strains be sung by millions
In a joyful ecstasy!
Therefore, poets and musicians, try, oh, try not to evolve
Something that can never be lasting, in forgetfulness dissolve.
You must catch the treble shrieking of the bullet as it flies;
For your bass, the cannon's booming; for your harmony, the cries
And the heart-throbs of a people
Lifting up their voice in prayer
From each dome and tower and steeples,
Some in hope, some in despair.
Thus your song shall be eternal,
Time itself shall sweep the strings,
And your name, in Heaven's journal,
Shall take precedence of kings.

REGINALD F. MEAD.

Spokane, Wash.



HOW MONTANA'S NEW STATE CAPITOL WILL LOOK.

PROSPEROUS MONTANA.

The progress made in Montana during 1897 will attract very general attention. It seems to have been a prosperous year in every line of industry—in mining, in stock-raising, and in agriculture. Eugene B. Braden, the assayer in charge of the United States assay office in Helena, estimates that the State's total production of gold, silver, copper and lead last year was not less than \$52,750,000. The comparative figures made by him are as follows:

| | 1897. | 1896. |
|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| Gold..... | \$4,450,000 | \$4,390,671 |
| Silver..... | 30,550,000 | 20,324,887 |
| Copper..... | 27,000,000 | 25,356,540 |
| Lead..... | 750,000 | 670,000 |
| Total..... | \$52,750,000 | \$50,732,098 |

This shows an increase of more than \$2,000,000 over the output for 1896, and a growth in every branch of mining except silver, which shows a slight falling off. The largest increase is shown in the production of copper, the total value of which exceeds that of gold, silver and lead combined. Montana's copper industry is thriving, and promises to increase in importance for many years to come. The big copper mines of Butte are employing more men than they ever have before. It is said that enormous bodies of ore have been blocked out in them, and it is certain that they can increase their production at the will of their owners.

The small increase in the gold output is due largely to the fact that the past year witnessed an unusual amount of development work. A number of the big producers were closed for a longer period than usual, while still others were engaged in putting in better general facilities. Though it is doubtless true that prospecting has suffered somewhat through the Klondike excitement, the value of Montana's mineral districts are so well established that properties there will always secure attention from careful investors; and even the most conservative are of the opinion that the State's output of precious metals for 1898 will show a very considerable increase over the production in recent years. This will seem a very reasonable expectation, when it is stated that nearly 2,500 more miners are employed in Montana this year than in 1897. Hundreds of millions of gold have been taken from the State in the past, and no one doubts that other hundreds of millions will reward industrious miners there in the future.

In the mining of coal and the production of coke, phenomenal progress has been made. In 1896, according to statistics compiled by the *Helena Independent*, the output of coal was 1,543,465 tons, and it is reliably estimated that 1898 will witness the doubling of this tonnage. "Capital," the *Independent* says, "is manifesting unusual interest in our great coal-fields, and at the present time several new properties are

being prospected and developed extensively in Cascade and Carbon counties. Not only are the coal and coke required by the great smelting enterprises of the State supplied by Montana mines and furnaces, but also the steam-producing fuel required in the operation of thousands of miles of railroad, extending far beyond the limits of the State, both east and west."

THE LIVE-STOCK INDUSTRY.

The same authority is of the opinion that the year just closed will be handed down in the annals of Montana as one of the prosperous ones in the live-stock history of the State. While 1896 was a year of low prices and many cattlemen did not ship at all, 1897 was just the reverse. From the beginning of the shipping season in July to the close of November, prices for cattle of all sorts ruled high at both Omaha and Chicago, and, as a result, not only were beef cattle sent to market, but everything that looked like a steer was exported, and eagerly taken by the Eastern buyers. The prices received by the Montana growers were good, being from twenty-five to thirty-five per cent more than in 1896. For beef cattle the average price received was \$45 a head, while feeders brought about \$33 a head. Secretary W. G. Preuitt, of the Board of Live Stock Commissioners, estimates that Montana shipped last year 192,162 head of cattle, and that they brought on the Eastern markets an average of \$37 a head. Add to this the consumption in the State, 60,000 head, and a grand total of 252,162 head is shown, or \$9,500,000 as a result of the cattle business in Montana for 1897.

Second in importance only to the mining industry, the cattle business in Montana today is one of the mainstays of the commonwealth. But the methods of conducting it are gradually changing. While there are still many big herds, they are gradually being broken up, and individual holdings are getting smaller and smaller each year. Many sections in Central Montana, in which immense bands of cattle roamed five and ten years ago, are now occupied by small settlers engaged in general farming. The big herds have been driven to the extreme eastern and northern parts of the State, where the range herds will have room to roam for many years to come. But the settlers on the streams and in the valleys are not engaged exclusively in the raising of hay and grain. Nearly all of them have their little bunches of cattle, from half a dozen to fifty head, and when the shipping season comes, many trainloads are made up from these small owners. In addition, the ranchmen almost wholly supply the local butchers, and that branch of the cattle business in Montana is growing rapidly. It was a good many years before the ranchman

In Montana realized the advantage he had over the Eastern farmer in the raising of cattle. Unless a man could run a big herd, he did not attempt to raise cattle. But as the big herds were compelled to move, because the ranchmen had taken up the water, the latter bought a few head of cattle, and during the summer and fall ran them on the range adjoining his ranch. In the winter he feeds them with his surplus hay, and he soon finds that the local demand is sufficient to consume his surplus. He has gradually increased his holdings, but never getting more than he can look out for, and today the most prosperous ranchmen in the State are those who combine cattle-growing with their grain-and-hay-raising. For these small holders the past year has been particularly good. They have sold every head they cared to, and at prices not realized before in many years.

One result that will follow present prosperity will be the improvement of stock strains throughout the entire State. The high prices and strong demand have taken from the State more cattle than really ought to have been sold, and it is safe to say that the shipments included the greater portion of the poor stock. This being the case, Montana will be somewhat short on cattle for a few years, and the growers will put into operation an enterprise which they have been contemplating a long time. Instead of depending entirely on imported cattle to keep up their herds, they are going to breed their cows. Nearly 3,000 thoroughbred Hereford bulls and 1,000 short-horn bulls have been brought into the State recently and placed on the ranges. The result will be seen in a few years—when Montana beeves shall be looked upon as the choicest of the choice.

Montana sheep have done well, too. In the amount of its wool product the State stands first in the Union; in the number of sheep, it is second only to Texas. During 1897 the State's output of wool amounted to 22,169,921 pounds, valued at \$2,545,107. For assessment purposes, the 3,000,000 sheep in Montana were valued last year at \$1.75 per head, but a nearer value would be \$2.50 per head. The grade of sheep is good, their health is well looked after, and their wool commands the highest prices paid in any of the Northwestern States.

Of range horses Montana probably has 150,000. Our Helena authority says that most of these are unbroken, but that in a great many of them flows the blood of some of the best draft-horses that money could buy a few years ago. The value of all the horses in the State, range, work and thoroughbreds, is not far from \$3,000,000.

The following estimate of the amount of money received from the live-stock industry in Montana during 1897 is based on returns received by the Board of Stock Commissioners, by the Board of Sheep Commissioners, and from reports of dealers in pelts and horses:

| | |
|------------------|-------------|
| From cattle..... | \$9,500,000 |
| From hides..... | 200,000 |
| From sheep..... | 1,537,082 |
| From wool..... | 2,545,107 |
| From pelts..... | 33,709 |
| From horses..... | 50,000 |

Total.....\$13,865,898

This, added to the State's mineral output, gives a grand total of \$66,615,898 as Montana's cash receipts in two lines of industry for 1897.

FROM AN AGRICULTURAL POINT OF VIEW.

Perhaps the best evidence of substantial growth, and of permanency in the upbuilding of the State, is the rapid appropriation of the public lands under the settlement and reclamation laws. The homesteader and the reservoir and ditch-maker are asserting their claims to consideration. The Helena *Independent*, in its recent review of State conditions, says:

"It is not many years since the belief was

widespread in Montana that mining and stock-growing were the only industries worth speaking of in this region, while the pretensions of the farmer, outside of a few specially favored valleys, were laughed to scorn. But there has been a marvelous change of conditions and of sentiment on this subject, and it is now pretty generally recognized that the time is not far distant when the value of the products of the soil will exceed that of the output of the mines, and when Montana will be as famous for the productions of her farms and orchards and dairies as she is today for wondrous wealth in minerals."

More and more land is placed under cultivation every year. Montana barley is of so high grade that it commands a premium, and wheat seems to do equally well. There are valley lands on which grains and fruits grow to perfection. With the return of good times, a better knowledge of the soils and climate, and a further extension of irrigating systems, it will take but a few years to place Montana well in line among its sister agricultural States.

The progress of events in this direction is shown by the *Independent's* review of the work of the land department in Montana. Since the repeal of the pre-emption and timber-culture laws, that paper says, there remain in general but two methods of "taking up" and perfecting title to agricultural lands; that is, under the provisions of the homestead and the desert-land laws.

It appears that during the year ending June 30, 1897, there were entered in Montana 187,148 acres under the homestead and 76,563 acres under the desert-land law, being a total of 253,712 acres filed upon under these acts. These are original entries and mean, to the extent of that large acreage, settlement, improvement, reclamation, home-making, independence. During the same period those who had previously filed on the lands were active in perfecting title, and the record shows that final entry was made upon nearly 150,000 acres, bringing that added area within the purview of the assessor and tax gatherer. But it is not the wealth thus shown that is of most account. The homesteader is not as a rule burdened with much of this world's goods; but if his purse be light and his chattels meager, he is blessed in most cases with a large share of muscle, energy and determination which soon bring about him competence and independence. The homesteaders of today will be the progressive farmers of tomorrow who will lay broad and deep a foundation upon which the greatness of the State can rest securely.

RED RIVER ALTITUDES.

The Grand Forks (N. D.) *Herald* says that the altitude of the Red River Valley along the river varies from 962 feet above sea-level at Wahpeton to 791 feet at Pembina in that State—a fall of 171 feet in an air line, a distance of 200 miles. Fargo, N. D., has an altitude of 903 feet, and Grand Forks an altitude of 830 feet. There is a gentle slope of the valley toward the Red River, though the surface appears to be as level as a floor. To the ordinary eye, the great body of the valley land appears as level as a threshing-floor. There are gentle undulations, however, sufficient to carry off any surplus water; but for all practical purposes the surface is level and, except for the occasional interruptions in crossing a stream, a plowshare could be run in a straight line for 200 miles. There is little waste land. No such area of exceedingly fertile soil, so desirably located and ready to so richly reward the labors of the husbandman, can be found elsewhere in the world.

THE FARMER SPEAKS.

Yes, parson, I'm dying. I know it, an' that's why I sent for you;
For the questions buzz in my head like bees, an' I want to ask you a few.
I've been a church-go'in' man, you know, for nigh on fifty year,
But, someway,—no offense, sir,—I ain't heered what I want to hear.
I ain't much used to trav'lin', never bein' away from home
But once, when I went to Milwaukee to see my cousin Jerome,
An' a few times to St. Paul, sir; an' I'm feared I'll go astray
On this here journey I've got to go, if I don't ask the way.
Am I prepared? Oh, yes; I guess I'm as ready as ever I'll be.
My debts is paid up, every cent, an' my fam'ly is pretty free;
I ain't wronged no man, as I know, but what I've made it right.
Oh, yes, parson; I'm ready, I guess, to take the trip tonight.
Somethin' else, is there? Do I love the Lord with all my soul?
Of course not, of course not, parson; I guess, upon the whole.
My fam'ly's got the heft of my love. I love my neighbors, too.
An' the dumb critters on the place. Ain't that enough for you?
I tell you, parson, if I thought I was leavin' them behind,
Never to see them any more, I wouldn't be resigned
Even to know I was goin' with the Lord to Heaven straight;—
'Twould be to me like Hell inside, were they outside the gate!
Well, parson, I am getting tired; we'd better say good-bye;
An', for those other things, I'll find the truth out when I die.
But you can't tell me the honest man will on the judgment day
Fare worse than will the church-member who prays, but doesn't pay!
An' if the next world's much like this, as I've got an idee,
With less of evil an' more chance to be what we should be,
Hunt me up, parson, when you come, out on my farm at work;
For He won't never make of me a hallelujah shirk.
CHAS. LOWATER.
Rock Elm, Wis.

THE SONG OF THE WIND.

Whatever it be, there is naught to me—
No medley of sounds, no melody.
That possesses so much of a nameless charm
As the wail of winds in a winter storm.
When the rattling branches are bleak and bare,
And stinging and rough is the wintry air,
And the eddying snow-gusts blindly beat
Against the windows, there's naught so sweet
As to sit by my open fire-place wide
And hear the howl of the winds outside.
It takes me back to my boyhood days,
When we gathered around the ruddy blaze,
Of a night, and watched the fire-beams glance,
And the answering shadows merrily dance
Upon the wall; and heard the moan
Of the wind, as it sobbed in an undertone—
As its sobs rose high to a wail so shrill
That it made the aching marrows thrill.
Oh! what is so sweet, when the fire burns bright,
As the shrieking winds of a winter night?
Full many a time I've been lulled to sleep
As I heard them eddy and sigh and sweep
Through the branches outside; as I heard their tread
On the rattling shingles overhead;
As I heard them yell, and rave, and groan,
And sink down into a monotone,
While I lapsed away to the happy shore
Of dreams, and heard their tones no more.
Oh, there's naught so sweet, when cozy and warm,
As the wail of winds in a winter storm!
Tonight I sit where my shadow falls
And dances along my chamber walls.
Outside, the storm-wind surlily roars,
And charges and beats against panes and doors;
But I scarcely hear it. My soul is away,
Amid the things of a happier day;
Amid the scenes that so long have fled;
Amid the faces that now are dead;
And I hear, with a sense of nameless woe,
The song of those winds of long ago.
Lincoln, Neb. J. A. EDGERTON.



The Iclander Yelled.

Some time ago, just before the snow fell, an enterprising Iclander built a small shanty in the wooded district near the shore of the Assiniboine, opposite Cypress River. The intention of the man was to cut cordwood and haul it to the railway track with his ponies. The man, who was all alone, had procured some flour, some sugar, some coffee, and a dressed hog. He set the hog on its hind legs against the wall of the shanty outside, in order to keep the meat cool. Through the night he heard a noise, and, fearing that there was something wrong with the horses, he slipped on his shoes and, without waiting to dress, hastened to the stable, which was close by.

He found the horses very restless, but could see nothing wrong. The noise which he had heard was made by a huge bear, which had been attracted by the exposed hog. Having pulled the carcass down from its upright position, he was tasting the dainty with much satisfaction. The sudden opening of the shanty door had alarmed the bear, and he had moved round the house. While the man was in the stable, the wild beast, reluctant to abandon the pig, had returned. The darkness of the night, the loneliness of the forest and the mysterious noises, caused the Iclander to become very nervous and to believe that some great danger was near, and as he advanced towards the door of the shanty he met the horrid apparition face to face—a huge, black, shapeless monster that rose on his hind legs until he seemed at least ten feet high.

The man, who had never before seen a bear, thought that instant death awaited him, and, uttering a terrific yell, he rushed into the stable and closed the door hastily behind him. In the meantime the bear retired further into the forest, hauling the pig along through the bushes. After awhile the man, who had little on but his shirt, became cold, and, seeing the coast clear, he armed himself with the pitchfork and made a bolt for the shanty door, leaving the bear in full possession of the prize, which was, in fact, the only thing that the man could do.

The bear is still at large, and will be found in a den somewhere in the woods along the river. The Iclander showed courage in going out at all in such a place and at such an hour, as it is at any time a most dangerous thing for an unarmed man to attempt to take meat from a hungry bear.—*Cypress River (Man.) Western Prairie.*

The Game of "Black Jack."

Black jack, the only table banking game tolerated in British Columbia, is seen night and day in the smoking-rooms of the hotels and in other public resorts in that Province. A writer who attempts to describe it says that the deal is passed around the board to each successive "black jack," thus giving every player an equal chance on his luck to do the banking business of the game—a very lucrative privilege, by the way.

The game is simplicity itself. The banker deals one card to the players and himself until each has two cards. Twenty-one is the maximum count.

The player's money has been placed before the

draw. An ace counts one or eleven; the other numerical cards count as their faces run, and all picture-cards stand for ten. Therefore an ace, together with an illuminated card, or a ten spot, make a natural twenty-one in the deal, and the player who receives this has a "black jack," and wins the deal as well as his wager. If the dealer or banker gets "black jack," he scoops in all the money bet against him around the board. His greater advantage, however, lies in the fact that every player has to draw to his hand before the dealer does, and, taking the average run of the game, the players "bust" ten times as often as does the dealer.

"Busting" consists of drawing so as to make a sum in excess of twenty-one after the deal. The penalty is loss of the player's bet. In the case of the dealer "busting," he pays everybody who has not burst before him.

The most reputable citizens indulge in "black jack," and it is no uncommon experience to see merchants, bankers, professional men, mine owners, as well as miners and skillful gamblers, all jostling one another around the "black-jack" table.

It would seem to be a fascinating game, for it lures from sleep, for nights, the traveling agents and capitalists from the East whose education in the arts of "black jack" has been neglected. While some very large sums of money change hands, few of the winners retain any considerable part of their gains. The expert gambler gets in his work manipulating the "black jack," but in an ordinary game, where a few safer and watchful players are engaged, his cleverness is kept under an eclipse.

A Rare Old Justice.

There are some remarkable things in Dakota County besides big potatoes and county expenses, says the Northfield (Minn.) *Independent*, and Attorney W. W. Pye ran against one of them the other day.

It reminds one of that old case in which Justice Andrew Keegan found it necessary to set aside the statutes.

Andrew Keegan was a justice of the peace at Rosemount for a good many years, and, withal, a very good man. Once, when some legal proceedings were pending before him, he proposed to do something to which one of the counsel objected, declaring that it was contrary to the statutes. But Justice Keegan, believing firmly in the right of his proposed action, declared that it was "sometimes necessary to set aside the statutes," and they were accordingly set aside.

There are two young men in this city who have unfortunately gotten into a little difference of opinion over some potatoes that were raised across the line in Dakota County, this State. One man raised the potatoes, and then gave them to some one else. Just who he gave them to is where the trouble comes in, for each young man claims that he was the lucky fellow to receive the gift. But, before the matter was fully decided, one of the young men went out and dug part of the potatoes and carried them away in triumph.

Then it was that the other fellow decided to appeal to the courts, and so he put the minions of the law upon the track of him with the potatoes. And the minions of the law, in the person of Judge John Empey, of Waterford, issued a warrant for the arrest of the man with the potatoes (not for the potatoes), and had him dragged into the presence of the court on a charge of larceny.

The successful digger of potatoes took with him, for legal counsel and protection, Attorney W. W. Pye, of this city. Mr. Pye thought he would prefer to try the case before some other justice, so he filed an affidavit of prejudice and

asked for a change of venue, after a plea of not guilty had been entered. But the court promptly informed him that "he guessed he'd try that case himself."

This came very near taking Mr. Pye's breath away, but he recovered sufficiently to state, in his most respectful and legal tone, that he didn't think the court could do it, after the filing of his affidavit; that a change of venue was a statutory right that the court could not deny, and he proceeded to read the statutes in regard to changes of venue. Then the court propounded this poser to Mr. Pye:

"Who made that book—God, or man?"

The attorney thought it was made by men, but men who composed the State Legislature, with due authority to enact laws.

"Who printed it?" thundered the court.

The attorney thought it was printed under the direction and authority of the secretary of State.

Then the court found, as conclusions of both law and fact, that he would try the case himself.

This fully equaled the precedent set by Justice Keegan, but there was more sorrow in store for Mr. Pye.

The witnesses for the State were sworn, and testified that the defendant had dug the potatoes in question and carried them away, but they admitted that they knew he did this under a claim of ownership.

Then the defendant's attorney moved for a dismissal of the case, on the ground that the penal code provides that it shall be a sufficient defence to a charge of larceny that the property was appropriated openly and avowedly under a claim of title, even though the claim may be untenable.

But the court did not propose to see his victim slip through his fingers in any such way as that, and he promptly denied the motion and fined the defendant \$2 and costs, remarking that it was larceny, anyway, whether the penal code said so or not, and the accused had to remain in custody of the officer until the appeal papers were made out.

Mr. Pye has so far recovered from the encounter as to be able to be out again. The district court will probably finally settle and determine the question as to whether God or man made the statutes of Minnesota, and which is the biggest, the aforesaid statutes or Justice Empey, of Waterford.

A Famous Hermit of the Minnesota Forests.

About nine miles east of Kimberly, which is a flag station on the Northern Pacific Railroad a short distance from Aitken, Minn., says E. A. Bromley in the Minneapolis *Times*, lives William Franklin, a descendant of Sir John Franklin. His day-dreams, if he indulges in such luxuries, and his slumbers at night, are never disturbed by the rumble of wheeled vehicles; for, even under the most favorable circumstances, none of these could reach him. Whenever the simple but wholesome supplies which help eke out his larder, and which the lakes and forest do not afford, need replenishing, he paddles his dugout canoe down the river, out through Rice Lake to the nearest landing-place, and makes one of his rare visits to the settlements. Inasmuch as he chose the place where his cabin is built fourteen years ago, because of its isolation, we can safely assume that his visits to the "haunts of men" are few and his stay limited. Deer, duck and partridge are more attractive in his estimation than the noblest specimen of the genus homo, and the solitude of his island home more conducive to enjoyment than the bustle and activity of any town, however enterprising it may be. Occasionally some one from the large cities of the State, hearing of his skill as a hunter, penetrates to his lair and always

receives a royal welcome. When we went in, a few weeks ago, there was a lonely three-mile waste of half-submerged marsh to wade through, a river to ford,—we were so wet when we got to it that that little incident was of minor importance,—and numerous fallen pines to clamber over; but when we at last reached his delightful oasis, had exchanged our wet shoes for dry moccasins and had partaken of a hot game dinner, the situation did not seem so unpleasant as it had an hour before. In fact, when we surmounted the bank and Mr. Franklin advanced to meet us, we were too much occupied with his appearance to remember the discomforts of the trip.

We had been told that he was a remarkable man, that he had been a traveler in his younger days, that he was skilled in all the trickery of woodcraft, that he was a dead shot, a fine talker, a dignified, deliberate man, and reputed to be a descendant of Sir John Franklin, the ill-fated Arctic explorer. Rumor said that he was

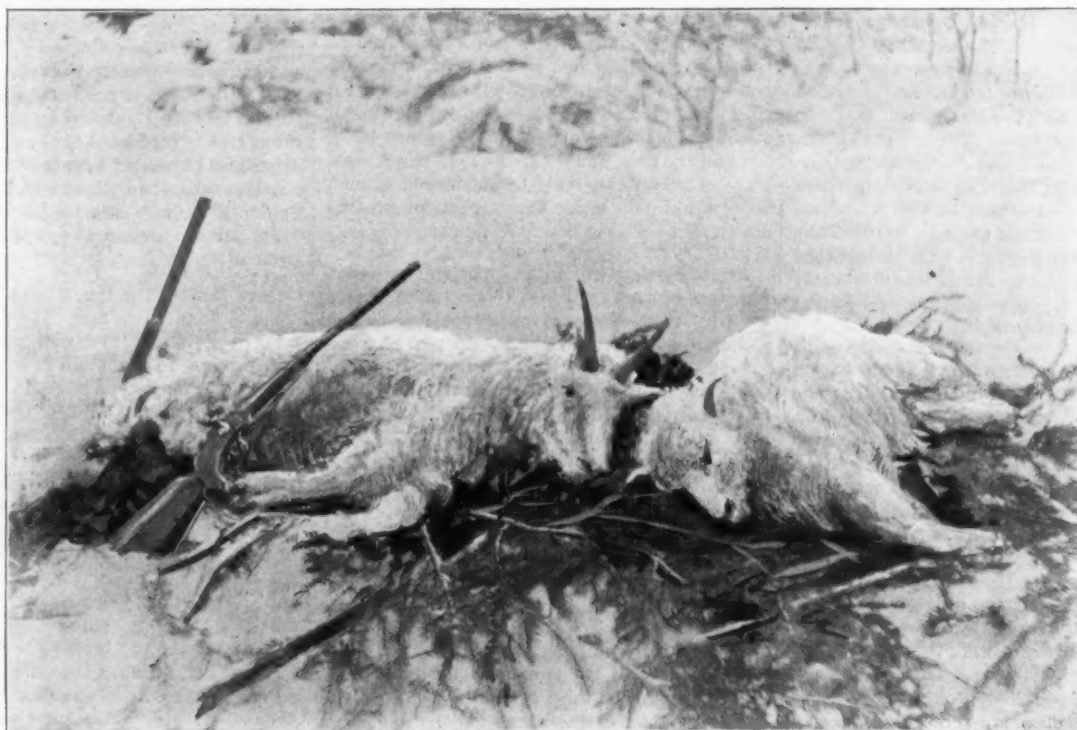
importance. While there he made the acquaintance of Commodore Kittson, whom he describes as a very hospitable gentleman. Franklin today shows many traces in manner and speech of his intercourse with the officers of the Canadian troops who were stationed in the town at that time, and refers to the year or two spent in their society as among the most pleasant of his life.

The Indian blood which courses through his veins, however, was insistent in its demands for the free and untrammelled life of the wilderness, and in 1860 he yielded to its clamoring and, journeying south into Minnesota, erected a humble cabin in Douglas County, near Alexandria. Here he made his home for many years, but in the trapping season was rarely to be found near his abode. All the rivers, sloughs and lakes as far west as the Red River of the North yielded him a store of furs, and the incursions which he made into the "Big Woods" around Alexandria each winter re-

huge mound which served him for a cellar was their handiwork.

Every year that he has tilled the ground which comprises his beautiful and productive garden, he has turned up pieces of ancient pottery, stone arrows, knives, and similar articles which find their way later into either private or collegiate collections of "relics." He very early turned his attention to the making of dugout canoes, and now finds a ready sale for all he manufactures. His garden supplies him with more vegetables than he can possibly eat, and inasmuch as his eyesight is as good as ever and his aim as true, it is a foregone conclusion that he is never without meat.

Upon the walls of his cabin hang several rifles and shotguns, close to a smoke-stained but still musical violin, with which he is wont to while away an hour or two occasionally. While he was trapping and hunting further west, the Sioux Indians called him "The Indian Devil," but he was much better pleased with the title



ROCKY MOUNTAIN GOATS.

Owing to their suspicious nature, and the fact that they frequent almost inaccessible mountain regions, these hardy animals are difficult to kill and are at once the joy and the despair of ambitious hunters. The illustration, from a photograph by H. W. Myers, represents two fine goats which were killed in the Rattlesnake Canyon district of the Rocky Mountains, near Missoula, Mont., in ten feet of snow.

a quarter-blood Chippewa, claiming kinship with the Canadian branch of that tribe, and that by choice he lived the life of a recluse. Twenty-four hours' intercourse with him made all these rumors realities. He stands six feet and two inches in his moccasins, is fifty-seven years old, and is as straight as any of the pines which murmur their ceaseless lullaby over his cabin. He was born in Kingston, Ontario. At an early age, being of an adventurous spirit, he left home and made several voyages to the northeast coast of America. His penchant for Arctic voyages, however, was tempered with caution; and hence, unlike his illustrious kinsman, he returned home, after having interviewed numerous polar bears, without any serious consequences either to them or to him. Later he drifted across the continent to Oregon, but did not remain long on the Coast.

After spending some time in Chicago, and discovering that he was not fitted for mercantile pursuits, he went to Fort Garry at the time when the fur trade in that locality was of vast

duced the number of deer in the vicinity very materially and occasionally enriched his cabin with the skin of some huge black bear.

Only a few miles away from his home the great highway between Fort Garry and St. Paul was traversed almost daily by trains of fur-laden Red River carts, but their going and coming did not disturb him, as he had even then determined to live alone. Fourteen years ago, when settlers began, as he expressed it, "to crowd that county," he sought and found a home in the pine forest miles away from any railroad, and where the presence of neighbors, other than the Chippewa Indians, was not likely to disturb him.

He came unwittingly into a locality which hundreds, or perhaps thousands, of years before had been most densely populated, but he was not aware that others had been there before him until some scientific gentlemen, searching for the homes of the ancient mound-builders, located their village upon the mainland adjoining his place, and pointed out to him that the

of "Black Sea-Gull," which the Chippewas of Eastern Canada bestowed upon him before he came west. He tells of having hunted and trapped a little along the two lakes near Minneapolis, Harriet and Calhoun, but did not stay there long enough to become familiar with the locality. His fame has spread all along the line of the Northern Pacific Railway, even from Duluth to Fargo, and many are the curious stories told of him by people who have never had the pleasure of his acquaintance. When we bade him adieu on the shore of Rice Lake, whither he had brought us in his canoe after our too brief visit, and while the spell of his manner was still upon us, we pictured him as a commanding figure in some vast assemblage, where his deliberate utterances, his stature and his graceful gestures would attract general attention. If the college dormitory instead of the prairie cabin had housed him in his youth, it is probable that he might today be numbered among the statesmen who throng the halls of Congress.

THE FROZEN NORTH.

By Kom Peyler.

The crusades in the Middle Ages for the recovery of the Holy Land from the Saracens is about to be paralleled in the rush of gold hunters to the Far North. The *motif* will not be the same, but the gathering, sailing, marching hosts will revel in strife, romance and hardships to their hearts' content, and in this bill of particulars be but little behind the storied crusaders of olden times. As the months come and go, interest in Alaska and the Yukon increases enormously. Impatient as children to look upon the revelation of a Christmas morn, thousands of men even now, in the dead of winter, are leaving home and friends for the famed gold-fields. St. Paul is the rendezvous for those who come from the East. Every train on the Northern Pacific and Great Northern lines carries scores of men to Tacoma and Seattle, there to take the first steamships to the Klondike. It is in vain that you tell them to wait. They wish to be on the way; and thus it was that many of them started in January and in early February, eager to approach nearer and yet nearer to the beckoning goal.

And this is but the beginning. If reports are to be believed, sixty thousand men will try to go to the Yukon regions from Europe, Australia and Canada, and one hundred thousand or more may be accredited to the United States. Nor will the rush stop with 1898. These thousands of men will scatter over a broad territory. They will prospect new fields in Alaska as well as in the Northwest Territories, and they will find paying deposits of the precious metal. In this manner the reputation of the country will be sustained and the way be prepared for thousands of other wealth seekers. It is hardly probable that there will be any falling off in the Alaska stampede before the year 1900. Why should there be? The country to be explored is of vast extent, and all reports therefrom confirm the belief that gold exists in paying quantities throughout an immense and as yet unknown territory.

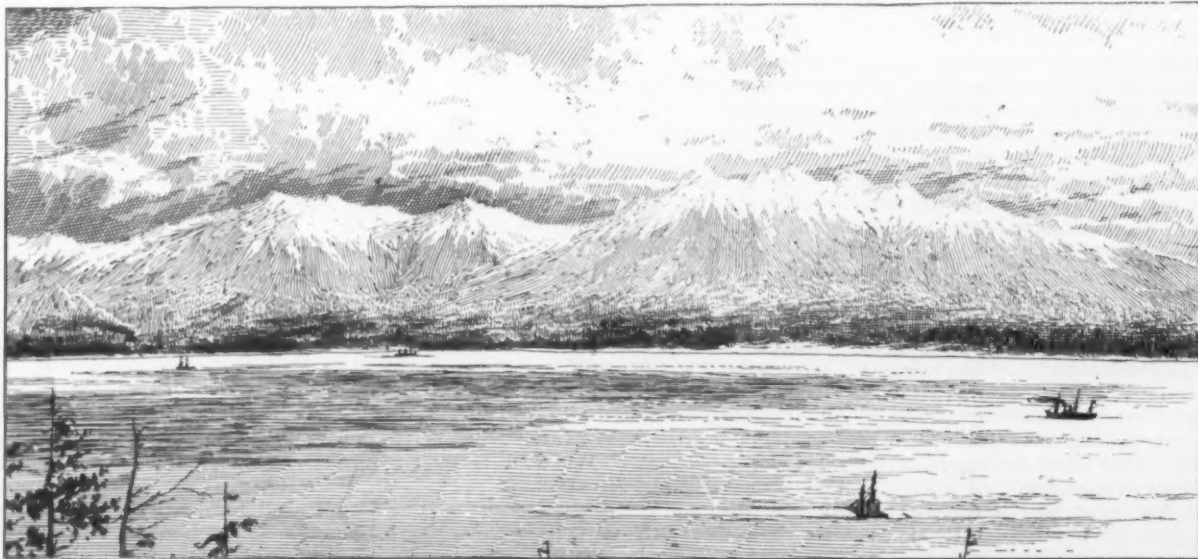
Development of these fields will proceed rapidly. Towns and camps will come into existence, the country will become populous, laws will be carried into effect, transportation facilities will be adequate to the needs of this new growth, and thus it will happen that the hazards and perils of a trip to the Frozen North will be reduced to a minimum. The time will soon come when all food and camp supplies can be purchased on native soil. This will be a great saving in both money and toil, the chief obstacle to the trip now being transportation of heavy supplies at frightful cost. Do away with all these impedimenta, all this laborious and expensive shipping, packing and boating, and the gateway to the Alaska gold-fields will be open to thousands of men who would not make the trip under present conditions.

All tales that are told of the nugget-laden quarters of the earth are to be taken with a grain of salt. Some of them are true; all of them are not true. Gradually the real becomes known, however, and it not infrequently happens that there is enough of fact to lend a color of truth to even the wildest fiction. It is this way with the stories that drift to the States from Alaska. The writer does not certify to the truth of any of them; he has gathered them in, so to speak, compiled them in readable shape, and now places them before the world for what they are worth, certain that the reading public will be entertained if not convinced.

Doubtless the first thing a man wishes to know, if he contemplates voyaging to the Klondike, is how to get there. If he lives in the East, or in any of the Central or Middle-Western States, he can do no better than come to St. Paul and travel to the Coast via the thoroughly equipped Northern Pacific Railway, or over

the Great Northern line. These are direct routes, and able to accommodate all comers. At Tacoma and Seattle, on Puget Sound, are numerous steamship lines ready to enter upon the ocean voyage to the Yukon via St. Michaels or around by Dyea and the land route. It is not necessary to name these steamship companies. A great deal of capital has been and is still being invested in ocean steamships and river vessels, and it now looks as if the transportation facilities would be fairly ample. It is a little early to announce railway construction in Alaska, though projects are now on foot for a line across Chilkat Pass and over the Dalton Trail to Five Fingers on the Yukon, and another from Dyea over the Chilkoot Pass to Crater Lake, this latter scheme including an aerial tramway from the mouth of Dyea Canyon across the Chilkoot Pass. It is about ready for business now, and will be able to transport 250 passengers and 150 tons of freight daily. Doubtless the favorite route for American miners is via Juneau and Dyea and over the Chilkoot, Chilkat and White passes. There is a good wagon-road across White Pass, for the use of which a reasonable toll is collected. Land routes are also being projected from Spokane, Wash., and from Edmonton, in Alberta, Can. For information in detail, relative to the whole Alaska subject, it is suggested that readers send direct to general passenger agents of the great transcontinental railway lines which start from St. Paul. They have studied all conditions carefully, and are prepared to furnish the minutest particulars.

Once bent on going, a man needs to know what to take with him. This is a matter of vital importance. He must take whatever he needs to eat, to wear, and to work with. It will never do to depend on one's ability to get such things in the Yukon Country—not now—not for a year to come. "Take everything needed with you," is the advice of those who know. Take the best food you can buy, and take a good supply of clothing and footwear. Here are some things that are absolutely necessary: A tent, a Yukon stove, a nest of three camp-kettles, fry-pan, bake-pan, water-bucket, plates, cup and saucer, coffee-pot, knives, forks, spoons, two large spoons, and a butcher-knife. The best materials for utensils are aluminum, granite-ware, and steel, in the order named. No tin, china, or glass is desirable. As for clothing, the essentials are mackinaw suits, heavy woollen underwear and overshirts, heavy woollen socks, woollen mits, and fleece-lined leather



THE OCEAN TRAIL FROM PUGET SOUND TO THE LAND OF GOLD.

mits; heavy leather boots, gum-boots, overalls, woollen cap, soft felt hat, and a waterproof clothing-sack. An adequate food supply for eighteen months weighs about a ton. The chief items are 600 pounds of flour, 300 pounds of bacon, 150 pounds each of beans and sugar, 75 pounds each of rolled oats or other mush material, and corn meal; 50 pounds of rice, six dozen cans of condensed milk, 35 pounds of butter in sealed cans, 150 pounds of evaporated vegetables, 100 pounds of evaporated fruit, 50 pounds of prunes and raisins, 30 pounds of dried fish, 40 pounds of coffee, with baking-powder, soda, salt, pepper, ginger, mustard, yeast-cakes, tea, soap, matches, lime-juice (very important), dried beef, extract of beef, soups in tins, sausage, tobacco, etc., as desired, bearing in mind always that variety of food promotes health.

All supplies should be packed carefully in canvas sacks of a total weight of fifty pounds each, as nearly as possible. Plain canvas is better than oiled, and paraffined better than plain. A canvas tarpaulin is necessary as an outfit-cover, and this may also be fitted up and used for a sail. The canvas sacks should be numbered, and a list of the contents of each be kept. The owner's name should be plainly marked on each. Such necessities as matches, candles, etc., should be distributed throughout the sacks, so that a loss of a portion of the outfit will not deprive the owner of these things. Put matches in small tin boxes. Each man or party of two or three will require a wall-tent, 8x10 or 10x12 being the usual sizes taken. Each man should have a canvas sleeping-bag, preferably paraffined, with a hood to draw over his head. He can have another heavy woollen sleeping-bag to go inside this, or use blankets, as he may prefer, though there is more warmth to the same weight in the sleeping-bag. There are, of course, many little things that are a necessary part of an equipment, such as a small kit of shoemakers' tools and supplies, mending outfit for clothing, a few yards of mosquito netting, goggles to protect the eyes from snow-blindness; pens, ink, pencils, paper, and government-stamped envelopes, both Canadian and United States. A compass is desirable, also snow-shoes and snow-calks for the feet. For travel on the snow, a Yukon sled is needed. Every man going to Alaska should also take a

small supply of medicines and surgical necessities. These outfits, both allopathic and homœopathic, may be procured in specially prepared cases, and cost about \$10. No one should go on this long journey expecting to be absent less than two or three years. It takes a long time to make the trip, and after one reaches the gold-fields there is a great deal to do and to do quickly. First comes the looking up of a claim; then follows the erection of permanent quarters and the gathering of fuel for the long winter months and for mining operations. The beds of the creeks and rivers are full of water in the warm season, thus restricting the getting out of gold-bearing dirt and gravel to the winter period, the washing all being done in the summer months. This is a slow process, and it is easily seen that not a great deal of work can be accomplished the first year or two.

So extensive is the gold-bearing area of Alaska and the British Northwest Territories, that all talk of exhausting the deposits is idle. The little streams which traverse the entire Klondike or Yukon region are as numerous as the veins upon one's hand, and every one of them seems to be more or less rich in gold. The same is doubtless true of the rivers and creeks on the American side. The great influx of miners will sooner or later cause all this vast territory to be prospected. However, as the objective point of nearly all the adventurers will be the country in the immediate vicinity



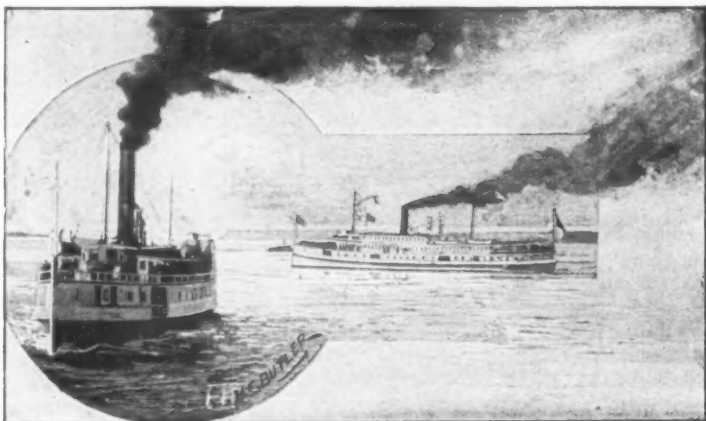
PANNING GOLD-BEARING DIRT IN THE NEW EL DORADO.

of Dawson City, where full information can be obtained, there is little use of naming the various mining localities in these notes. One of the latest and most important discoveries is in Southeastern Alaska. Fort Wrangel advises state that D. Solis Cohen and Councilman Cole have found deposits of gold on Gravina, Revil-lagigedo and Annette islands in Southeastern Alaska, along Clarence Straits, which are richer everyway than those of the Klondike. These islands are within a short voyage of Puget Sound ports, and have timber and good natural facilities. Gravina is the twin island to Annette, which was set aside by the U. S. Government, some ten years ago, as a reservation for "Duncan's British Columbia Indians." It is about thirty miles long by sixteen in breadth, and is said to be fabulously rich in precious minerals. The same authorities are of the opinion that all the islands in that portion of Alaska are full of gold. Fort Wrangel is about 100 miles southeast of Sitka, and near Stikine River. The country is quite easy of access.

There are other things of absorbing interest in Alaska besides gold. The natives should be studied. They are worthy of respect, and it will be found good policy to become acquainted with them and to treat them fairly. The Rev. Edward Marsden, who has lived in Alaska since 1882, says that there are six principal tribes: The Esquimaux, within and a little below the Arctic circle; the Tinné or Athabaskan, in the Yukon region; the Aleutian, in the southwestern, and the Thlingit, Hydah and Tsimpshean in the southeastern parts, all speaking different languages. The Southern Indians are noted for their self-reliance, hardness, boldness, and great industry. They used to be a fierce people, but now they are in a transitional period and very easy to get along with. They are said to be trustworthy, very tenacious of their rights, and very religious, though heathenish. An interesting story is related of old Chief Krshakes, of the Thlingit tribe, in Southwestern Alaska. He is said to know of a mysterious inland passage and chain of lakes, which lead to vast free-gold ledges and very rich hunting-grounds. The entrance to the inlet is hidden by several islands and guarded vigilantly by



PACKING MINING OUTFITS OVER THE MOUNTAIN PASSES.



A PART OF THE GREAT PUGET SOUND FLEET.

Ships that sail to the Northern Seas,
 Bearing men on their quest for gold.
 Speed, O Neptune! these argosies,
 Smile, O Fortune! on hearts so bold.

the old warrior and his stalwart sons. Nevertheless, the inlet will be open to exploring parties soon, and the chief will go to Juneau and Dyce to engage in packing over the passes. Secretary of State Jenkins, of Washington, says there is a great chance for prospectors in interior Southwestern Alaska, and that every bit as good placer ground can be found there as in the Yukon Country. Another story, possibly true, probably mythical, is told of the North Fork of the Koyukuk River, a tributary to the Yukon in Alaska. Years before Alaska passed out of Russian hands, an exploring party penetrated some distance north of the Arctic circle and then branched off to the west. Somewhere between the North Fork and the Arctic Ocean—no one knows just where, they came to a small mountain that was literally honeycombed with veins of rich, gold-bearing ore. It is said that \$5,000,000 worth of nuggets were picked up in a few weeks. But cold weather overtook them, traveling became difficult, most of the gold was cached, and—the members of the expedition were never heard from again. Perhaps they were killed by the native Indians; maybe they starved to death; it is quite likely that they perished with cold. Other men have since searched for the "Lost Golden Mountain," but the Indians are reticent, and the mountain remains lost to this day.

The red gold of the Frozen North has witnessed many a romance. For half a century or so Russian Alaska was ruled by a rough old naval officer named Baranoff, whose principal place of residence was at Sitka. In 1835 he sent to Russia for his young and beautiful sister, Routcha Baranoff. She came, and she soon longed for more refined society. Her brother was a great tippler, and his associates were no better. One day, during a drinking bout with some sailor guests, he drank himself under the table, and it was weeks before he was again able to attend to business. When he sobered up and asked for Routcha, she could not be found. In the sailor party was a young Englishman named Gordon Bruce, who had not joined in the carousal. He was handsome, stalwart, educated. One day he saw a lovely white lady in Sitka, attended by Indian servants. They were introduced, and the lady addressed him in English. It was Routcha. They loved, made their way to a Hudson Bay station near the Great Slave Lake, and were finally married by a Jesuit father. On this fearfully long journey they crossed the headwaters of the Yukon. It was summer, and they rested with some friendly

Indians. Bruce, who was interested in geology, was examining the rocks for traces of glacial action, when he noticed a curious glitter and color in the bed of a dried-up stream. As far as he could see, it was a mass of pebbles as large as walnuts and uniform in shape. They were dull red, and shone like metal. He picked up one of the stones. It was very heavy. He cut it with his knife; it was bright yellow; it was metal. "Good God!" he thought; "can this be gold? Why, here lies the price of an empire!" He dug into the bed with his knife, and it was the same for two feet down. He bathed his hands in the nuggets, and heaped them into piles. He was wild. He afterwards learned that the Hudson's Bay Company refused to let anything be said about the gold in that country, although it was known by its employees that the watercourses in certain localities were full of it. The company thought it had a better-paying gold-mine in its gigantic fur-monopoly. Bruce went away, and his dream of wealth came to naught.

But no company on earth could hold back the truth forever, and little by little it became known that there was much gold in the Arctic region. What has been found is as naught compared with what shall be found. Professor Emmons, of the U. S. Geological Survey, an acknowledged authority, says that the real mass of golden wealth in Alaska remains as yet untouched. "It lies in the virgin rock," he says. "The riches now found are but the skimmings from the pot; the soup remains. Nobody can say how many millions of years ago the metal was put there, but it must have been an enormously long time back. The streams wore away the rocks, carrying gold with them, and the process continued for ages, making immense deposits of rich, gold-bearing gravels. Eventually these deposits were themselves transformed into rock—a sort of conglomerate in which pebbles small and big are mixed with what was once sand. Today the strata composed of this conglomerate are of immense extent and unknown thickness. The formation closely resembles that of the auriferous 'blanket' or pudding-stone of the South African gold-fields; but the South African pudding-stone was in far remote antiquity a sea beach, whereas the Alaskan formation is a deposit made by streams, as I have said. In a later epoch the stream continued to gnaw away at the hills, bringing down more gold and leaving it behind in the gravels of their bottoms. It is these comparatively modern rivers which are

responsible for the pay-dirt of the Klondike District and of all that region. Naturally, because it was easily got at and worked, the miners have struck this surface alluvium first. The streams at various times have followed different courses, and it is in the gravels of the dry and disused channels that the gold-miners dig with such fabulous profit. It will be observed that the gold of that region exists under three widely different conditions—in the gravels, in the conglomerate or pudding-stone, and in the ancient rocks of the hills. When the modern stream deposits, now being worked, are used up, the miner can tackle the conglomerate, which represents the gravels of ages ago. Finally, when they are provided with the requisite machinery, they will be in a position to attack the masses of yellow wealth that are stored in the veins of the mountains. At present it can hardly be considered that the first bite has been taken of the golden feast which Alaska offers to hungry man."

Under the new Canadian regulations miners' licenses will be issued at \$10 each for individuals and at \$50 to \$100 for companies, and the fee for recording will be \$15, with an annual renewal of \$15 each. Claims will be 250 and 500 feet in length. The Canadian Government will reserve alternate blocks of ten claims. River and dredging claims will be leased in five-mile sections for \$100 a year per mile. Claims producing over \$2,500 a year will pay a royalty of ten per cent. In a mining-camp situated more than 100 miles from the gold commissioner's office, the miners, if more than five in number, may elect their own recorder and record their claims with him, pending regular registration within three months. Under Canadian laws each miner may carry into the Northwest Territories a personal outfit of 150 pounds free of duty, and the tariff imposed upon actual cost does not exceed twenty per cent on the balance. It will be seen that going to Alaska or to the Klondike is an enterprise that calls for considerable money and great powers of endurance. The Frozen North is not a health resort, nor is it a congenial spot for summer loungers and effeminate hammock swingers. Those who go there will probably have to sleep on spruce boughs, and hug portable stoves for warmth. But while it is a hard country, it is quite endurable. One can get accustomed to all discomforts save that of making a pack-horse of oneself, and the eternal solitude. By and by all this will be changed. The barriers which shut the miners from the outside world will be done away with, and communication with friends and civilization will be uninterrupted. One of these days it may even be a good country to live in. Who knows? There have already been strange happenings there, and it is not in the least improbable that the country contains other and still greater surprises.



JOHN DUNSFORD'S WILD-GOOSE CHASE.

By Mary Alice Harriman.

To see him swinging lazily along State Street, or by looking at his fair, handsome face, no one would think that John Dunsford was a devotee to the sport that entails roughing it in many ways. Nevertheless, he is like a water-spaniel or retriever: let a gun be shown, with a caressing running of the fingers over the polished barrels; talk of the game law when it is out, and the possibility of a good season for hunting; discuss the advantages of certain sections over others, where wary chicken or swift-flying blue teal or mallard may be found, and his indolence vanishes. Still like the dog does he shake himself, and all his energy is centered on the sport that comes with the advent of the crisp autumn days.

So, when business interests made it necessary for him to go to Winnipeg, Manitoba, during the early fall, he at once informed his friends that they must become accustomed to the idea of a long absence on his part,—“For I’ve heard so much of Manitoba as a game country,” he told them, “that I’m going to see it for myself, and, if possible, have the hunt of my life.”

It was quite a small arsenal that John took with him. I pitied the poor chickens which were nesting so quietly and happily in the wheat-fields of that distant Province, as well as the ducks and geese that would soon be flying southward. The chickens would be plump and fat, ready for the long, cold winter; and the migrating birds were no doubt already thinking of the bayous of the Southland and the quiet places where they would pass the winter months in bird-like comfort.

To hear John tell, though, you would think that the birds should prepare for another and better land, for he was going to do wonders with his hammerless ejector; and the various kinds of cartridges and the paraphernalia he took with him would make you smile. Indeed, I did smile, until he undertook to remedy my deplorable ignorance by a learned dissertation on the relative values of different “breeds,” I think he called it (or was it “makes?”), of ammunition. However, that I knew nothing of such things matters little. John knew it all, and I was content.

In due course of time he left Chicago, and then came a message announcing the safe arrival of the guns—plus customs duty—at the prairie city of the Canadian Northwest. At intervals there came reports of wondrous bags of game—chicken, grouse, and duck; but only when he came back to Chicago did he enlarge on his never-to-be-forgotten holiday.

“Why, I tell you, boys,” he burst forth one night when the smoke of the postprandial cigars floated over the heads of a few of his friends, who were dining with him at the club, “you never saw anything like it. I thought Illinois had some wheat-fields, but neither it nor any other section compares with the wide stretches of beautiful, open, level prairie that makes of Manitoba a veritable granary of the world. Along the river banks around Winnipeg there is a growth of small timber and brush, but if you will go west a few miles you will gaze entranced at the unlimited prospect.

“We went out about fifty miles, I guess, and got off the train at some small station—Barberry, if I remember right. You know George

Bacon, than whom there is no better fellow living. Heard me speak of him, have you not? Well, he was with me on this particular trip, and, as he knew the country thoroughly, I left it with him to make all arrangements for the various expeditions. He’s been connected with the railroads there for years, you know.

“So, as I remarked, he had the say as to where we should go each day. Sometimes we came into town over night; but oftener we stayed in some farmhouse, where we invariably had good beds and food. By Jove! I’ll not forget what a queer feeling I had, one night, when our tea was served in Haviland china cups. The family were English and had come to Manitoba to save their daughter, who, when she came to this country, had incipient consumption. They saved her, and she is now the mother of some fine, healthy youngsters, having married a young farmer who lives on the section adjoining. Great climate, I tell you.

“But I am digressing. I started to tell you of my first goose-shooting, not to give you a homily on the healthfulness of prairie air.

“I have told you of that bag of chickens—seventy-two, got in one day, but I never wrote you of our first sight of geese. Gee whiz! I can see them now!—I can hear their incessant honk-honk-honk. “We had halted for the night

“The men folks have no time to bother with the pesky things,” she volunteered. “They are such nuisances in the spring, comin’ along and fillin’ up on the freshly-sown wheat, that the farmers fairly hate ’em. Thomas says, though, that, since he has put in the seed with drills, the geese don’t find so much to eat. Kinder fools ’em. Then, again, in the fall men are too busy plowing to stop to fool with geese.”

“And that was true. Everywhere, we had seen gang after gang of men threshing, or following the shining plow and turning up the rich black loam preparatory to another season of bounteous harvest.

“But with us it was different. We wanted to shoot any and all geese that were geese enough to come our way! George Bacon had shot Canadian geese for years, but it was to be my maiden effort, and I was anticipating the pleasure of pumping shot into a flock of the big game-birds.

“Honk-honk-honk!”—well we knew the distant call, and out on the piazza we went quickly.

“Had a fall of snow occurred while we were at supper? What was that white, cloud-like stuff over on the field, by the barns?”

“No; it was not snow, for snow does not fall in patches and in a heaving, undulating mass that bobs and bows and talks goosey gabble. It was geese—hundreds of them!”

“Quick! The gun!” I said to a boy standing by.

“With my heart thumping, I undertook to stalk the magnificent birds; but it was dirty work crawling through the loose soil, so recently upturned, and the attempt nearly smothered me. Inadvertently raising my head too high, I was seen by an observant old goose, and a loud flapping of wings and a sudden rush of air told me that I must wait till those geese



“Why, I tell you, boys, you never saw anything like it.”

at a pretty farmhouse where wide-spreading fields betokened a thrifty farmer, and the neat house bespoke a contented wife. As we were partaking of the good meal that Mrs. L— had prepared, we asked if geese had been seen yet.

“She assured us that she had seen geese that very day, and said they were in the habit of stopping for the night about a quarter of a mile from the house, in a hollow that was once a lough.

alighted elsewhere.

“Somewhat chagrined, I returned to the house. Mrs. L— condoled with me, but Bacon guyed me unmercifully, until, seeing that I really felt sore over my ill-luck, he assured me that it was almost a physical impossibility to get within range of the birds on the open prairie.

“Again we watched another flock of geese, coming from the north in wide, laborious circles of their V-shaped cloud, the leader well in ad-

vance. Would they settle near us for the night, or go to some place more secluded?

"Yes—no—yes! They drop at last—three hundred of them, at least, and each bird looked as large as an ostrich to my dilated vision.

"On, on I crept, hardly daring to breathe. The gathering darkness favored me somewhat, till only a slight swell of ground lay between me and the coveted game, scarce a hundred feet away.

"Up they went; and, oh, wasn't I mad! For

in a perfect hysteria of anger at his foolish shot. But one goose fell, after flying a few feet, and George ran after it.

"Struggling and screaming, the bird tried to get away, but in a short time George captured it and, wringing its neck, came back to where he had dropped his gun, picked it up and walked leisurely toward us, an interested group on the porch.

"I tell you it was a beauty! When he threw it down, we saw that he had winged it with his well-nigh impossible shot, and I assure you

swiftly-running water. Of course, my first impulse was to strike for shore, but, seeing that the ponies needed help, I swam to them. George was swimming to shore, burdened with the guns, which, in some way, he held in one hand while using the other to swim with.

"By good luck, more than by my own sagacity, I cut the traces with my knife, which I had in my hand when tumbled from the cart. The ponies reached the shelving bank easily, but we were shy buckboard and ammunition. George had a little shot, but not enough for a day's shooting, and, after locating the place, so that we could send someone after the buckboard, we went on, hoping to reach a farmhouse before long. I was chilled by my impromptu bath, but running along beside the ponies soon warmed both of us.

"Just as we were passing a railroad track, which was banked up considerably, we came to a trestle, and, looking through, saw a small slough. As I live, there sat two of the biggest, handsomest geese a man ever looked at between the equator and the north pole!

"There's the chance of your life, John!" said Bacon, quietly. "Don't frighten them."

"He took my pony by the bit, and, like the good, big-hearted fellow that he is, waited there and gave me my opportunity.

"I crept cautiously under the trestle to the nearest point to the slough. There, lying close to the bank, I surveyed the noble birds. Unconscious of their impending fate and the wild exultation I already felt as I gazed on the game I was so sure to bag, the geese swam leisurely along, bobbing their heads and preening their glistening plumage. A quarter of a mile away, perhaps, a farmhouse stood in the sunshine, while the near-by stubble showed recent cutting. Some rushes grew in the more shallow parts of the water, and I longed for their shelter. I had done so little goose-shooting that it is small wonder that I trembled, like a maiden getting her first kiss, as I rested my gun on a bunch of stubble and tried to draw a bead through my blurred eyes.

"Piff—bang! I had pulled the trigger, and feathers flew from the breast of the nearest goose! I could have yelled, in my delight; but I wanted the other.

"They both rose, but the one I had hit fell heavily and, in a few seconds, lay quietly floating; the other flew quite a distance, then turned back to see what was wrong with its mate. I could do nothing on a wing shot then, I was too excited; so I waited, and presently the goose flew to another slough, still nearer the farmhouse.



"As I live, there sat two of the biggest, handsomest geese a man ever looked at."

no apparent reason they decided to move on, and they did.

"I thought surely they would light again, and, though my first impulse was to jump up and let both barrels blaze away, I lay quiet, hoping that they would settle still nearer; but coil after coil of the gray birds vanished in the darkening sky, and a badly disappointed man brushed his clothes and betook himself to the house."

"What was Mr. Bacon doing all this time?" inquired one of the interested listeners.

"Oh, he was out prospecting, and presently came in to get more cartridges.

"Anything coming this way, George?" I asked.

"Yes; there's a string of geese coming over the barn," jerking his thumb over his shoulder, to indicate the direction.

"Sure enough! As we looked we could see them, a long line of Canadian geese—not white, this time, but black and white, with long necks and legs, and a little ruff around their necks which one could almost see swell and ruffle as they passed swiftly to a field about six hundred feet east. Here they settled—walking, talking, and feeding from the fallen wheat-heads in the stubble.

"George ran down along the barbed-wire fence; then, though fully three hundred feet away, he rested his gun on a fence-post, took point-blank aim, and fired.

"Talk about fool luck! A puff of dust followed the smoke from the gun, where the shot struck the earth—apparently two feet from the nearest goose. With a great flapping of wings, the flock rose. I'll bet there were a thousand, more or less, and I stood there dancing around

that that goose weighed twenty-two pounds, for we weighed it.

"Right then and there I made up my mind that I was going to kill a goose or die in the attempt. I wasn't going to let anyone—with their 'alleged skill,' as Bacon humorously put it—get ahead of me, if I was new to the country.

"So, there in the beautiful autumn evening we sat and smoked, hearing the well-drilled battalions of geese as they swept by with their leaders well to the fore of the rank and file, the sound of their clamorous voices dying away in the distance.



"There, lying close to the bank, I surveyed the noble birds."

"The next day we had a mishap that nearly ended any further goose-hunting. In fording one of the apparently shallow streams,—I think it was the Assiniboine,—we got in beyond the depth of the little ponies, and, with a sudden flounder, they lost their footing and went under. George had presence of mind enough to grab the guns, but I landed head-first in the

"Not daring to rise to go for the dead goose, I crawled painfully through the rough roots and half-burned stubble. It was torture to hands and wrists, but what won't a fellow do when out for sport? I was after geese, and if it had been burning plowshares,—which, I understand, the early martyrs occasionally used for pavement,—I'd have gone after that goose!

"But presently I was behind an ant-hill, and within shooting distance. I sighted carefully, gave him one and then another barrel in quick succession, as I saw the first charge did not touch him, and at last I had the satisfaction of seeing his head drop suddenly forward. He had 'got it in the neck,' so to speak!

"Then, hurrah! I didn't do a thing! I just yelled and danced.

"George came up and helped me get my geese by wading in the slough for the first one, while I did the same for the other; and I proudly exhibited them to the farmer, when we reached his house.

"Oh, Jerusalem! but he was mad. They were a couple of wild geese which he had raised and tamed and was fattening for Christmas!

"Holy smoke! how he raved; and the more he swore the more Bacon laughed. I forgot to tell you that George is an inveterate joker. He knew of this farmer and his domesticated wild geese, and had purposely headed this way after our ducking.

"The farmer was eventually persuaded to loosen the clutches of the law from me on the payment of ten dollars, which payment, by the way, George afterward insisted on sharing. He says that my exuberant joy, and the fun of it all, was worth ten times more to him than his self-imposed assessment.

"I had lots of goose-shooting after that, and got many a plump bird, but the actual zest was never quite so keen, nor my satisfaction so complete, as on that day when, vainly imagining that I was stalking the wildest of their kind, I shot those poor geese which were undergoing the process of civilization and culture. It was one on me, boys; so drink hearty."

SETTLEMENT IN NORTH DAKOTA.

Wells, Foster, Stutsman and Barnes counties are growing rapidly, but there is still abundance of room for thousands of happy homes in that comparatively new territory. In 1892 the Soo Pacific extended its line through that section, running through these counties diagonally from the southeast to the northwest, and opening to settlement great stretches of fertile prairie which attracted many homeseekers and investors. Government land was plentiful, and railroad land could be bought cheaply and on easy terms. A few stations were started along the line, general stores began to appear, elevators followed, and now quite a number of prosperous towns have grown up on the Soo line between Valley City and Harvey. The latter town is a division point and a place of considerable importance. Its growth has been rapid, but it has hardly kept pace with the swift settlement of the adjacent country.

The town is located on the Sheyenne River in the northwestern part of Wells County, and has today a population of about 400. It is destined to be a town of some size. Its present growth has been made within four years, with the country just settling and railroad operations very meager. The town has a full complement of business houses in all lines, and a new bank, the German State, has just commenced business. Harvey has a large territory to settle up and draw business from. Besides its natural territory in Wells County, it has McLean County on the south and Pierce on the north and west. With the development of this great area, Harvey is sure to reap a rich reward in business and population. The benefit to the town from the local railroad business has not as yet assumed its full scope. Although the

railroad company has a roundhouse, repair-shops, coal-sheds, cattle-yards and other utilities here, it has but started with its improvements, which must eventually mean a large permanent income for the place. An excellent quality of lignite coal is mined at Pony Gulch, about twelve miles southwest of Harvey, and it is sold for \$1.50 per ton at the mine. Coal can be had in other portions of this region, quite near the surface.

The soil around Harvey is a black, sandy loam from fifteen to thirty inches deep, with a clay subsoil. The surface ground is rich in phosphates and nitrates, and the subsoil holds large quantities of gypsum and carbonate of lime. All kinds of cereals have so far proved a great success, and vegetables grow prolifically. It is claimed that small fruits can do well there. The country is a great, rolling prairie with a uniform soil except along the Sheyenne River, where it is broken by draws and short ravines.

Nearly all the Government land within ten or twelve miles of town is already taken, but outside of those limits some free land still exists. Lands within two miles of the town can be purchased for \$8 to \$10 per acre, and considerable land for a good deal less. Land ten or twelve miles from town can be had for about \$4 per acre. For diversified farming, this is an ideal country. The great, rolling plateau, which forms a part of the Coteaux Range on the west, is a magnificent cattle and sheep pasturage. Combined with this splendid grain and hay country, it makes one of the most attractive all-round farming sections in North Dakota.

The other important towns in Wells County are Fessenden, the county seat, a thriving place of 800 people that made a marvelous growth within two years, and Cathay, a smart, thrifty little point in the southeastern part of the county that is growing steadily in business influence. Cathay has a couple of general stores, a hardware store, an implement house, a lumber-yard, a livery concern, hotel, two elevators, a branch of the Fessenden Bank, and the only flour-mill in the county. The latter is a 100-barrel mill of the most improved type, and it bears a high reputation for the excellence of its product. Fessenden, by the way, to go back a bit, has one of the best local papers in the State, the always alert and ever enterprising *News*. Its columns teem with items relative to business activity in this part of the country.

The country around Cathay is about the same general character as the balance of the county. It is a desirable stock region, but wheat-raising is the chief resource so far, although a few cattle and sheep are to be found among farmers. The price of land runs from \$8 to \$20 per acre, according to distance from town and the improvements on the place. There is room at Cathay for a drug-store and, possibly, a few other lines of business.

The next point east on the Soo where astonishing local improvements have been made within the past six months is

COURTENAY,

situated in the northeast part of Stutsman County and well endowed with a rich territory for its support. This portion of Stutsman County consists of a low, rolling plateau, broken here and there by small ravines and draws. Great stretches of hay land and highly productive old lake-beds are very abundant. The soil is a rich, brown loam, slightly mixed with sand, and runs from ten to thirty inches deep. Lands range in price from \$6 to \$20 per acre. The farmers in that section are very comfortably situated, and many of them are quite wealthy—especially those of long residence there. A strong diversifying tendency

is noticeable among the better class of farmers.

Courtenay is an unusually progressive little place, and the business men are full of energy and ambition. It has all the mercantile lines needed except a bank, which is very much desired. Although the place is small, the territory around it is large and fairly well settled, and a bank would find a profitable business there. All the business men would be willing to aid such an enterprise.

A number of handsome residences were built in Courtenay last year, and several foundations for others are now awaiting the return of spring. The town does not draw its trade from Stutsman alone; Foster, Griggs and Barnes counties also furnish business for its support. The solid improvements inaugurated last year are bound to continue. Courtenay has a bright outlook, and people who are seeking farms near an active, growing place, would do well to inquire about that section. The notable growth of

WIMBLEDON,

in the Northwest township of Barnes County, deserves more than a passing mention. It has three large general stores, a hardware house, two lumber-yards, a good hotel, two elevators, a livery barn, meat-market, drug-store, implement house, and is well supplied with substantial concerns in all lines except a bank, which is badly needed and which could make a decided success there. A machine repair-shop would also find a good opening. The business men are a young, vigorous set, and they are willing to aid any project that can be established at that point. A banking institution would be welcomed heartily. The territory around Wimbledon is quite extensive and pretty well settled, and land is in fair demand. Prices of land run from \$8 to \$20 per acre. Some of this territory was settled as early as 1880, and during this period a complete failure of crops has never been known. The soil of the neighborhood is dark brown loam from twelve to thirty inches deep, the subsoil being a retentive yellow clay, rich in productive mineral ingredients, which assures a constant crop under fair conditions. All kinds of grain, grasses and vegetables are successfully cultivated in that section, and small fruits, finely flavored, are almost a sure crop. An artesian well, which gives enough pressure to run a flour-mill or furnish power for some other enterprise, is found in Wimbledon, and its use could be obtained by any one that will start such industries. The town has good schools and churches, a live newspaper, and all the elements that tend to social and material progress. Should any specific information be desired about the soil, or concerning the business opportunities at Wimbledon, any of the business men will gladly furnish it. It is a good country for men that have some money and who will undertake diversified farming or continuous wheat-growing.

HERBERT DEAN.





Minnesota as a Potato State.

Minnesota has become famous throughout the United States as a potato State. In 1886 the total crop of the State was about 5,000,000 bushels, and was almost entirely consumed at home, in the cities and on the farms. In 1895 the crop of the State amounted to 24,500,000 bushels, and Minnesota rose from the twentieth State in the Union as a producer of potatoes to the third place. Last year the crop will be considerably larger than was estimated. At least 18,000,000 bushels will be shipped out of the State. A large part of the crop of 1896 was converted into starch, and the price was so low that thousands of bushels rotted in the ground, not being worth the digging. The 1897 production will bring from \$5,000,000 to \$8,000,000 into the State. A profitable investment indeed.—*Minneapolis Tribune.*

"Jumbo" Windmills for Irrigation.

Hon. S. A. Cochrane of Brookings, S. D., State engineer of irrigation, advocates the theory that farmers should put up "Jumbo" windmills, which they can easily learn to make, and irrigate small tracts, varying the area from year to year. Such a windmill, with pump and all, would not cost, he declares, over \$30, and where the water supply was sufficient, ten acres or more might be irrigated and a reservoir 100 feet square be kept well filled. If the supply was not adequate to such a drain as this, fair-sized tracts could be irrigated direct from pipes. He knows one man who irrigated four acres from a tank receptable for water drawn from a well, and made it pay. He also believes in the feasibility of utilizing dry runs and natural ponds for the storage of water, but is of the opinion that irrigation by means of artesian wells is too complex and expensive for the people of his State at the present time.

Yukon Enterprise.

Already the movement to the Klondike has commenced, and the cities on Puget Sound are being filled up with gold-seekers. Every steamer is crowded with people and freight for Skaguay and Dyea, and the outfitting merchants are rushed with orders. It is expected that fully 100,000 people will go to Alaska before July next. Of course, the stampede to the gold-fields will be of immense benefit to the entire Coast, even if only one-half the crowd reach the coveted goal. There is no question about the richness of the discoveries, but at the same time all can not find gold mines, and much suffering must ensue. This is the history of every gold discovery. In the meantime, however, the lumbermen are preparing to get in on the ground floor. It is estimated that no less than 100 portable saw-mills will be put in on the Yukon, Lake Bennett, Dawson City and other places, nearly fifty having been bargained for so far.—*Seattle (Wash.) Lumber Trade Journal.*

Enthusiastic North Dakotans.

Messrs. Pepper, two English farmers near Edgeley, N. D., have made a most remarkable and enviable record in this country since their first arrival here fifteen years ago. They came to North Dakota in 1882, almost penniless.

They located three claims near Edgeley and started in with a determination to operate a big farm upon a strictly scientific and economical basis. They have succeeded. The profits from their big 1,200-acre farm for this season were \$15,000 clear cash. They have not had a bad year since they began. They own all their machinery, including a complete threshing outfit, having paid for these things long ago from the profits of the farm. They have made several trips back to the old country since they began to prosper here, and now intend to make a Christmas visit home every year. They are enthusiastic over the future prospects of the country in which they live. They claim that land as good as theirs can be had in that vicinity at very low figures, and heartily advise anyone looking for a good investment, or even speculation, to put his money in this great wheat country. They predict that within the next two years this Northwestern country will witness more substantial progress than it has enjoyed before.—*Grand Forks (N. D.) Plaindealer.*

Wisconsin's Agricultural Development.

Taking note of the industrial transformation of the upper end of the State, the Milwaukee *Sentinel* says:

"The agricultural fair held at Chippewa Falls marks the development of the 'New Wisconsin.' It is but a few years since the Northern Wisconsin Fair, the name which the society giving an exhibition at Chippewa has been pleased to adopt, was a regular and famous annual event at Oshkosh. At that time Oshkosh herself was much more interested in logging-camps than in grain-fields and dairy pastures, and the whole country from which the exhibits at Chippewa Falls are principally drawn was scarcely thought of for farming purposes. The title of the lumberman to kingly rights in the northern half of the State is being wrested from him. The actual settler is no longer the thrifty person who preempts a quarter-section of land with no other purpose than to acquire the right to cut the timber. Towns which were abandoned by the lumber barons as too far removed from the logs, and which suffered a period of decay, are beginning to revive and improve under the stimulus of the increasing and more permanent trade of the farmer."

The Northwest's Big Industrial Plants.

The growth in magnitude of western industrial enterprises is fairly shown in the fact that the first of the fifteen large gun-carriages for coast defense built by the American Hoist and Derrick Company, of St. Paul, Minn., was recently completed in the most successful manner. The base ring of the mortar carriage weighs seven and one-half tons and is fourteen feet in diameter. The racer, which rolls upon the base ring, is the largest casting in the carriage, and weighs fourteen and one-half tons. This is also fourteen feet in diameter. The total weight of the completed carriage is thirty-seven tons. The steel hydraulic cylinders, which take the recoil, are seven and three-quarter inches bore and are tested to a hydraulic pressure of 8,000 pounds per square inch. The mortar is returned to its position by twenty-five immense spiral steel springs. The mortar itself is a dangerous looking machine fourteen feet long and weighing thirteen tons. It has a twelve-inch bore and requires 100 pounds of powder for firing. The projectiles weigh 800 pounds, and are fired at an angle of forty-five degrees. With this amount of powder the projectile has a range of six miles, and moves at a rate of 1,100 feet per second. These mortars are usually mounted in groups of ten or fifteen, and are fired simultaneously, the projectiles falling like enormous hailstones upon the unfortunate fleets

which happen to be in their path. The gun will be sent to Sandy Hook to be tested.

Washington as a Manufacturing State.

The Tacoma *Ledger* says that there is every reason why the State of Washington should become one of the greatest manufacturing communities in the Union in many lines. "We have the advantages of an inexhaustible supply of cheap fuel, cheap raw material, and increasing home and foreign markets. No other section on the Pacific Coast can compete with this State in manufactures. California has vast agricultural and horticultural possibilities, as has also Oregon, but they are limited to those lines. Neither State possesses the raw material to anywhere near the extent of Washington, and both are handicapped by lack of cheap fuel. Coal for manufacturing and domestic purposes has to be imported from Washington for the use of California, which cuts off that State from the possibility of ever becoming a manufacturing State.

"Washington has inexhaustible supplies of cheap fuel, an abundance of raw material, and the advantage of being 2,000 miles nearer our home and foreign markets than our nearest competitor. That Washington should send money to the East for many of the manufactured articles used here is greatly to our detriment, when we could not only supply the home demand, but also our neighbors further along."

Twenty-Five Days from St. Paul to Dawson City.

Charles King, special agent of the Northern Pacific at Dyea, Alaska, was in St. Paul at the general office of the company, recently, and says that all the towns on the Sound are filled with people ready to make a start for the gold-fields. The movement, he says, will begin about February 1. The storms in the passes are ordinarily heavy during December and January, and the snow is quite wet. By February it hardens, and travel can begin with reasonable safety. Speaking of the hardships, Mr. King said:

"I do not think a man should start in unless he is in good condition. When he reaches Dyea he should have his outfit and about \$500. Even under these circumstances he must expect to do some hard work in packing over the pass. Many go there with no money, and they have a hard time. The pass is as safe to walk over as a city street, but the grades are steep, and good, hard physical labor is required. I could take a two-year-old boy and walk him over the trail without any danger of his falling over the cliffs. Of course, you can always find places in Alaska where you can fall off, if you look for them, but there is no real danger anywhere of accidents of this kind. In August and September one could sit on the summit of the mountain and, looking down a distance of ten miles, see at least 1,500 people climbing up the pass. It has been practically demonstrated that Chilkoot is the route."

Mr. King says that the tramways will be in operation next summer, when it will be much easier to make the journey. He believes the time required will not exceed twenty-five days from St. Paul to Dawson City.

What North Dakota is Learning.

The resources of a strictly agricultural State like North Dakota are not limited to crops of wheat, oats, rye, barley and corn. Agricultural resources comprise a great variety of products, and it is only when such resources are fairly developed that a State receives the right sort of interest on its original capital. North Dakota farmers are learning this lesson rapidly. They have made so successful and so profitable a beginning in the live-stock industry that we may expect to see thousands of horses, sheep, cattle

and swine in the near future where we see hundreds now. They are also becoming deeply interested in the various departments of dairying, from the raising of good milkers to the establishment of scores of township co-operative creameries and cheese factories. Hereafter they will continue to raise wheat, etc., but they will raise it to feed in part to live stock and to sell in the shape of beef, pork, mutton, wool, butter, and cheese. Following this course, it will be but a short time before North Dakota will be one of the richest agricultural States in the Union. All kinds of live stock thrive there. The grasses are good, the climate one of the best, and a scarcity of supply and a growing demand are proofs against overproduction for many years to come. Diversification of this character is in the line of economy. It helps one hand to wash another hand. It does away with the frightful waste of raw material. It converts an overproduction of cereals into foods for which there are sure to be active demands. It enriches the farmer's soil, keeps his estate free from mortgages, and puts him in a position to be what he ought to be—the mainstay of a prosperous, wealth-producing commonwealth.

Good Words of Canby, Minnesota.

Canby, Minnesota, is a village that shows what can be done when citizens determine to pull together. In 1893 Canby was visited by a destructive fire, but with indomitable courage and Western thrift and enterprise, the tradesmen began to figure on new buildings before the ashes of their old stores were cold. Today the substantial banks and all business houses in this thriving village of the plains are of brick, and the crowded stores and busy streets show that the country backs the town ably.

Canby has over a thousand inhabitants, and boasts one of the finest school buildings in Southern Minnesota. Children from all over

party of land seekers at once came to Canby.

The illustration shows inquiring farmers who were looking for a "good thing" and knew it when they saw it. Needless to say, most of them returned to their Iowa and Illinois homes but to return with families and stock, having purchased good farms at fair prices in Yellow Medicine County, Minn. It is only a question of a short time when all the available lands will be taken up, and any one with a few hundred dollars could do no better than take land in this section as an investment. Mr. Lund, Manager of Lund's Land Agency at Canby, Minnesota, would be glad to answer any questions and to send maps, etc., to those interested in this section of the Northwest. Yellow Medicine County is one of the best counties in the State. The soil is a black loam about two feet deep, underlaid with clay, and it is unexcelled

ed under the general title of "Eureka Flats."

Transportation facilities are the Hunt Road, or, more properly, the Washington and Columbia River Railroad, running from Eureka Junction on the main line of the Hunt Road to Pleasant View, a distance of twenty miles.

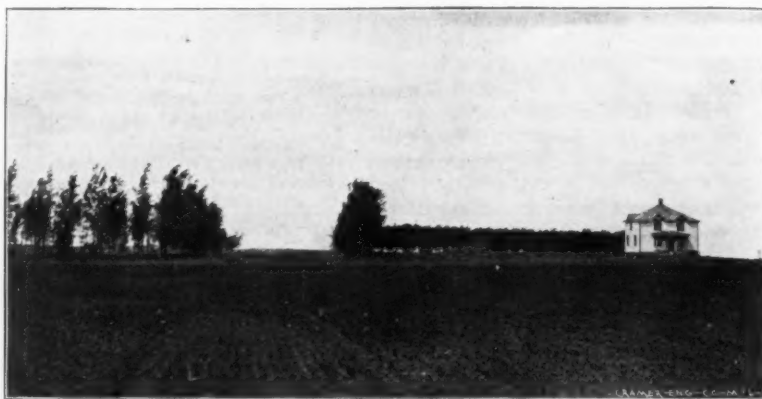
Between 800,000 and 1,000,000 bushels of wheat were grown on the Eureka Flats last year, mostly blue-stem.

The railroad company has helped the farmers out on the water question by running regular water trains made up of large tanks on flat cars, hauled from ten to thirty miles and sold at the rate of \$10 for 5,000 gallons. The farmers haul it from the trains in large horizontal barrel-tanks holding 400 to 600 gallons.

This water problem was one that appealed to a man of Mr. Babcock's make-up for solution, and he went to prospecting. He has been there



THE LUND AGENCY SHOWING LAND TO PROSPECTIVE SETTLERS NEAR CANBY, MINN.



A FARM VIEW NEAR CANBY, MINN.

the county come here to enjoy the advantages of the superior educational facilities, of which Canby may justly be proud. Two good banks, a good wheat market, an excellent flour-mill with a capacity of 250 barrels per day; several churches, and a mixed population of Scandinavians, Germans, and Americans, make a typical Minnesota town. Canby and the surrounding country have had a marked increase of population the past two years, owing to the active operations of Lund's Land Agency, which has placed thousands of acres of the best of farming lands under the care of active, progressive farmers who have been attracted to this garden spot of Minnesota from Southern Iowa, Illinois, and other neighboring States. Mr. Lund had an exhibit last fall in Iowa, where he showed specimens of the staple products of the soil which attracted so much attention that a

for general farming purposes. Water can be had anywhere on the prairie at an average depth of twenty feet, and a shortage of crops never has been known.

A Wheat Farm on Eureka Flats, Wash.

Probably the largest wheat-grower in the State of Washington is W. H. Babcock, of Eureka Flats, in Walla Walla County, on the line of the Washington and Columbia River Railroad, says the Tacoma Ledger.

The Eureka Flats is a name applied to a bunch-grass valley from three to seven miles wide and thirty miles long, with rolling hills on the north from the break of the Snake River, and with hills on the south that form the divide between the Eureka and Touchet rivers. These hills are little more than high-rolling country, are all farmed more or less, and includ-

eighteen years, and knows the country thoroughly. It was some eight or nine years ago that he struck a flowing vein of water distant one and three-quarter miles from his house. The well was down 140 feet when the water was tapped. It is of good quality. In order to have an abundant supply at all times, he drifted on the vein of water sixty feet, so that he has a storage reservoir at the bottom of the well sixty feet long, six feet wide and six feet deep. The tunnel is well braced to keep from caving.

From the well an inch and a quarter pipe leads to the house, and four windmills are used in the water system. One windmill raises the water to the large cistern at the surface; a second one pumps it from the cistern into the pipe; a third forces the water along, and a fourth, placed a mile away, still further helps the distribution.

Men interested in pumps and water-works will understand that there is a vacuum and air chamber at each windmill. With a fair breeze, a solid flow of an inch stream is secured.

At his house he has two tanks with an aggregate capacity of 25,000 gallons. He expects to increase the capacity next spring to 50,000 gallons.

Mr. Babcock now cultivates 5,000 acres of wheat, and has about 100 head of work-horses employed continuously. He has forty head of dairy and stock cattle, and forty head of hogs. Besides supplying all the water for his farm and for domestic use, he supplies some of the neighboring ranches.

He has two steam-threshing outfits, which threshed 275,000 bushels this season in fifty-five days' run. He harvested 4,400 acres of wheat in 1897, using headers, averaging thirty bushels to the acre.



Arlo Bates' "Talks on the Study of Literature" are made up from a course of lectures delivered by him under the auspices of the Lowell Institute in 1895. The author says that literature may be broadly defined as the adequate expression of genuine and typical emotion. No one will deny that the essentials of literature, as he says, are the adequate embodiment of sincere and general feeling. We see a sentence written on paper, and are intellectually aware of it; but unless it concerns us personally, we are not moved by it. Most impressions which we receive touch our understanding without arousing our feelings. They are not "genuine emotions." Professor Bates declares that mankind tests art by universal experience. If an author has really felt what he has written, if what he sets down has been actual to him in imagination, whether actual in experience or not, readers recognize this, and receive his work, so that it lives. If he has affected a feeling or shammed an emotion, the whole thing is sure to ring false and the world soon tires of his writings. From what literature is, the author goes on to the study of literature, literary expression, false methods, the value of the classics, fiction, poetry, etc. It is a critical work, of great value to those who would read understandingly and derive from books the fullest measure of profit.—Houghton, Mifflin and Company, Boston and New York. For sale by the St. Paul Book & Stationery Company. Price, \$1.50.

Few modern writers of fiction have reached a higher plane in public estimation than Hall Caine, author of "The Christian." In the study of the elemental passions of life he exhibits, as one very competent critic declares, a mastery that places him high among the foremost of present writers. Popular as "The Manxman" and "The Bondman," both written by him, have proved, they have not received the wide reading that has been given "The Christian," now in its sixth edition, nor are they the equals of this last work in literary merit and deep, philosophical research. In his note at the end of the volume, Mr. Caine says that in presenting the thought which is the motive of "The Christian," his desire has been to depict, however imperfectly, the types of mind and character, of creed and culture, of social effort and religious purpose which he thinks he sees in the life of England and America at the close of the nineteenth century. However numerous his critics,—and it is only fair to say that one's reception of this book will be colored and influenced largely by one's own conception of religious ethics,—all must agree that Mr. Caine has created a story that is of intense interest to the reading and thinking world.—D. Appleton & Company, New York. Price, \$1.50.

"The Young Mountaineers," by Charles Egbert Craddock (Mary N. Murfree), with illustrations by Malcolm Fraser, is another of those very interesting and wholesome stories of mountain life and adventure, for which the author is famous. It is a valuable addition to her series of semi-romantic fiction, which has

proven so popular with the youth of the land. Such books are healthful, and it is a good sign when writers of established ability forsake the adult public and the more profitable sensational lines of fiction, for the purpose of providing entertaining and instructive matter that shall develop a taste for good literature in juvenile minds. Not that "The Young Mountaineers" and the rest of the collection cannot be read with absorbing interest by older people, however. Their plan and treatment are sufficiently deep and broad to hold the attention of any reader; but they are essentially young, and it is from the young that they will receive their most cordial welcome.—Houghton, Mifflin and Company, Boston and New York. For sale by the St. Paul Book & Stationery Company. Price, \$1.50.

It is when the holiday season approaches that parents discover how difficult it is to find suitable books for the younger members of family circles. They want something that is neither too deep nor too shallow; something that is entertaining, and perhaps amusing, but which is not altogether flimsy and ridiculous. The growing popularity of Hezekiah Butterworth's works, shows that he knows how to meet this want fully. In "The Wampum Belt," a tale of William Penn's treaty with the Indians, he has written a story that is quite as instructive as it is interesting. He calls it his sixth volume of stories of the creators of American liberty, in which he has aimed to teach history by fiction founded on notable incidents in the lives of the heroes. The tale in question relates to the wampum belt, which was delivered by the Lenape Indians on the Delaware River to Penn, at the great treaty made under the elm-tree at Shackamaxon in 1682.—D. Appleton & Company, New York. Price, \$1.50.

Those who like to wander in strange countries and amid strange gods and unfamiliar customs, will find a book of peculiar interest in "Buddha-Fields: Studies of Hand and Soul in the Far East," by Lafcadio Hearn, lecturer on English literature in the Imperial University of Japan. It is evident that Professor Hearn has seen what he writes about. His linguistic accomplishments and fortunate position have enabled him to gather information that would be very difficult for ordinary travelers to collect. The work bears the stamp of merit. It is one of those books so greedily sought by collectors of works on the world's religions and on oddities of mental and spiritual conditions among men and nations.—Houghton, Mifflin and Company, Boston and New York. For sale by the St. Paul Book & Stationery Company. Price, \$1.25.

"Aaron in the Wildwoods" is a characteristic story by Joel Chandler Harris. It is written in that happy vein which attaches to all of Mr. Harris' books, and it will afford a deal of pleasure to juvenile humanity. If aught be wanting, it is a lack of new material. The author might profitably indulge in a bit of mental exploration, and give his youthful clientage something that shall be distinctly new. The book is well illustrated by Oliver Herford.—Houghton, Mifflin and Company, Boston and New York. For sale by the St. Paul Book & Stationery Company. Price, \$2.

Admirers of Edmund Clarence Stedman, and they are many, will be delighted with the little volume entitled "Poems Now First Collected." The Caribbean series has been completed, and much of it, the author states, now appears for the first time. The book is dedicated to Mr. Stedman's wife, and contains a

good deal of his best work.—Houghton, Mifflin and Company, Boston and New York. For sale by the St. Paul Book & Stationery Company. Price, \$1.50.

ILSE: MY PRINCESS.

Ilse, my princess, see! I bend the knee,—
Unbent to lesser idols—or to God,—
And with stilled heart I make my prayer to thee,
Kissing the ground where thy dear feet have trod.
But, first, I break all other bonds in twain,
Renounce all other duties, snap each chain
That binds me to the past. Enfranchised, free,
Life of my life, I lift my soul to thee!
Bind it with fragrant fetters of thy hair,
Crossed and recrossed, woven with loving care;
Make it thy deathless captive; brand thy name
Eternally upon it; fan the flame
That thou hast lighted; it shall burn for aye—
Through life, through death, and the soul's endless day.
For I am thine, thine only, thine alone,
Immortally, unchangeably thine own!
Within thy hands I lay my love, my all,
Irrevocably, fully, past recall.
I make thee full surrender of myself—
Name, honor, country, faith, hope, life itself.
I give thee all a man may call his own,
And crown thee queen upon my soul's high throne.

Now stoop, and with thy madly-sweet rose-lips
Kiss me, until, in passion's dim eclipse,
My senses fail, and naught is left to me
Save the keen ecstasy of loving thee
And knowing thou art mine, my very own,
Sweetest of all sweet things my life hath known.

Beautiful, arched, flower-mouth,
Dewy and fragrant, warm as the South,
Sensitive, mocking, sorrowful, gay,
Mouth of a princess, mouth of a fay,
Mouth of a woman, a god, a child,
Blossom that opened when Nature smiled—
Exquisite cup for thy breath's warm wine;
Ilse, I drink from it; Princess mine,
I drink to our love from thy mouth divine.
W. E. P. FRENCH, 3d U. S. Infantry.
Fort Snelling, Minn.

THE RHYME OF A TRADE-MARK.

Away in the mystic long ago,
When perfect silence reigned, you know,
The Great Extreme, in cogitation,
Evolved the plan of this vast nation.

Among the things which were to be—
Strong iron bands from sea to sea;
A race-track for the Dual Powers,
So storied in the Land of Flowers.

He knew, being author of the plan,
How fierce a rival man to man;
And, knowing which would be the best,
Arranged for it a magic crest:

"Yin and Yang I'll swift rotate,
And evolve the symbols eight.
I'll raise a line of savants wise,
With long pigtails and slanting eyes.

"The Grand Fuh Hi and all his crew,—
Lien Chien and Tsz, the fat Choo Foo,—
Each shall be learned in his day,
And thus translate the great Pah Kwa:

"Know all who dwell beneath the skies,

That from the mighty inland sea,

Swift as the vivid lightning flies,

With thunderous din, the great N. P.,

As if on wings of wind upborne,

Trails many a precious argosy
Toward the setting sun;

Scaling each mountain crest,
Garnering the wide Northwest,

Of all Earth's roads the best,
Queen of the North!"

"When time shall bring about the Fad,
This line shall use my great Monad;
And I decree that good Choo Tse
Shall hand it down to Chas. S. Fee."

St. Paul, Minn.

W. D. SIMPSON.



An Epitaph Factory.

A Georgia editor published a job-lot of epitaphs and announced in connection that all the paid-up subscribers would get one as good if not better when their time came. Here is a sample:

"Here Spottswood Jones is lying dead.
On earth he was a teacher.
'I'll meet three wives in heaven,' he said.
'Lord help you!' said the preacher."
—Grafton (N. D.) Record.

A Tricky Call-Bell.

The electric call-bells at the Umatilla House have been acting rather peculiarly of late, says the Dalles (Or.) *Times-Mountaineer*. The other night a minister of the gospel, who was stopping at the hotel, rang, as he supposed, for hot water. In a few moments a knock on the door was heard, and when it was opened the preacher was presented with a tray on which were three cock-tails. The host has been busy explaining, but the minister doesn't know whether to consider it a trick or an unlooked-for blessing.

Montana Journalistic Courtesies.

In the interchange of journalistic compliments the Butte (Mont.) *Inter-Mountain* and the Helena *Independent* are becoming remarkably facetious. The *Independent* having said: "If we had a boy who couldn't invent a plausible lie, if he had to lie, we would drown him," the *Inter-Mountain* rises to the occasion and retorts:

"If you had a boy, you would not need to drown him for inability to lie, because the chances are that he would be a natural-born liar. The law of heredity would regulate that matter." And there you are!

He Wants a Job.

A prominent official of the Northern Pacific Railway has received the following letter from a citizen of a Minnesota town:

"I Sean in the St. Paul paper That you ar Sending dear Out thare to howl fraight.

"I Would like a Job to drive Some of them if the Wadges is Sutebil if thare is any show Let me no at once. Yours respectfully."

The writer of the above requires only a little more education and practice to make him a correspondent of peculiar directness and lucidity of style.—St. Paul Pioneer Press.

Picturesque Klondyke Cold.

The Alaska *Miner* is responsible for the following statement of conditions in the Klondike Country—a statement made to the editor by a man who had been in that region. He said:

"A man who had wintered up there seven years told me that it was so cold in January that they froze the flames of their candles and sold them for strawberries. He said they kept their fires over-night by putting them out in the air and letting them freeze, and then thawed them out in the morning. He said he had seen four men die of colic from eating whisky that was frozen so hard it wouldn't thaw inside of them. He said the cows gave ice-cream till they froze to death. He said he knew a clerk in a hotel on the Yukon that got rich selling the diamonds he wore, said diamonds being nothing on earth but ice crystals—that didn't thaw until the clerk got out of the country. He said he had seen a man fall off

the roof of a barn and freeze so stiff before he alighted that he broke in two when he hit the ground. He said he had seen smoke freeze in a chimney till the fire wouldn't draw; and he knew of one case where the smoke froze after it got 100 feet up, and fell back on the house, knocking a hole in the roof big enough to drive a yoke of steers through. He said the reason that nights were so long in that country, was that the dark got froze so hard that the daylight couldn't thaw its way through in less than six months."

Thought He was a Hobo.

"Would a letter reach you from Vancouver?" Secretary Frank Oleson, of the board of public works, was thus interrogated by a stranger who had stopped him on the street. The stranger looked like a hobo.

"What do you want to write me from Vancouver for? Say what you want right here," replied the good-natured secretary.

The hobo wanted the price of a bed. "Come to my office," said Oleson, "and I'll draw you an order on the Salvation Army."

"Oh, come off," said the hobo. "Have you got an office? I thought you was one of us." The secretary is figuring now on an entire change of wearing apparel.—Seattle (Wash.) *Post-Intelligencer*.

An Expensive Infirmary.

A good story comes to the Grand Forks (N. D.) *Plainsdealer* about a public man in Washington who affects deafness at times and thereby saves himself annoyance from people who do not want to shout their private business into his ear while other persons are about. But the plan doesn't always work well. One day the public man saw a North Dakota office-seeker approaching, and rightly suspected that he was to be bored with a tale of woe. He greeted the office-seeker kindly and then pretended to have difficulty in hearing him. But the story of hard luck was told, all the same. At the end came the request:

"Lend me five dollars, please."

"What did you say?" asked the public man, in a tone which he thought might deter the would-be borrower, especially as others were standing near.

"Lend me ten dollars!" came in a tone which drew the attention of everybody within twenty feet.

"Why, yes," was the reply.

The bill was produced and passed over. As the lender followed with his eyes the retreating borrower he said, a little bitterly:

"I'd have saved five dollars if I'd heard him the first time!"

Owed to the Hen.

We have read of Maud on a summer day, who raked, barefooted, the new-mown hay; we have read of the maid in the early morn, who minded the cow with the crumpled horn; and we've read the lays that the poets sing of the rustling corn and flowers of spring; but of all the lays of tongue or pen, there's naught like the lays of Dakota's hen. Long, long before Maud raked her hay, the Dakota hen has begun to lay; and ere the milkmaid stirs a peg, the hen is up and has dropped her egg. The corn must rustle, and the flowers must spring, if they hold their own with the barnyard ring. If Maud is needing a hat or gown, she doesn't hustle her hay to town; she goes to the store and obtains her suit with a basketful of fresh hen fruit; if the milkmaid's beau makes a Sunday call, she doesn't feed him on milk at all, but works up eggs in a custard pie and stuffs him full of chicken fry. And when the old man wants a "horn," does he take the druggist a load of corn? Not much! He simply robs a nest, and

to town he goes—you know the rest. He lingers there and he talks, perchance, of true reform and correct finance; while his poor wife stays at home and scowls, but is saved from want by those self-same fowls; for, while the husband lingers there, she watches the cackling hen with care, and gathers eggs; and eggs she'll hide, 'till she gets enough to stem the tide. Then hail, all hail to Dakota's hen, the grandest blessing of all to men! Throw up your hats and make Rome howl—for the persevering barnyard fowl! Corn may be king, but 'tis plainly seen, that the Dakota hen is Dakota's Queen.—Dakota Farmer.

Told on a Montana Club.

A representative of a Chicago syndicate has been in Billings trying to interest the people of that town in the establishment of a distillery there, for the manufacture of rye whisky. He wanted a bonus of \$25,000, and probably would have got it if he had gone to the right kind of people; but, instead, he called a meeting of the Billings Club, and presented his plan to the assembled members. Everything looked favorable until he came to stating the output of the proposed distillery, which he fixed at forty barrels a day. Immediately a murmur of dissatisfaction went around the room.

"Only forty barrels?" inquired one member, in a disappointed tone of voice.

"Is that all?" growled another, whose drink-attitude had been whetted by the debate.

"Not enough!" sentimentously remarked a third.

And the stuff was off.

Why, when a party of Billings sports go fishing—but, never mind; this is a free country, and if people are abnormally afraid of being bitten by snakes it is their glorious American privilege to protect themselves in the customary way. Only recently, John Losekamp made up a party to go fishing; and nobody went but John—because there was no room in the wagon for anybody but John and the stuff.

Only forty! The idea!—Miles City (Mont.) *Yellowstone Journal*.

The Squaw and the Smoker.

From some unknown source comes the story of a passenger who took a sleeper for Portland, Ore., the other day. He strolled into the smoking-car, after a while, and took a seat just ahead of a vigorous old squaw. Pulling a cigar from his pocket, he began to puff it with all the enthusiasm of one who experienced tobacco thirst in the extreme, and the Indian woman got more smoke than she wanted. When the conductor came along, she entered a very energetic pantomimic protest, and he, being something of a wag, indicated that she should squelch the smoker by whacking him on the head with the immense umbrella which she had. She, supposing that the conductor's authority was all-sufficient, forthwith acted on his suggestion with native vehemence; she hit that man so hard that his hat was forced down over his eyes and his cigar sent spinning to the further end of the car. Then she never turned a hair nor smiled a smile.

When the man got out of his hat and had made sure that he was still sound in bone and muscle, he turned in his seat, glared ferociously at his assailant, and said "Damn!" She returned the look with aboriginal immobility of countenance, and finally made another movement toward the umbrella.

"No, you don't!" said the fellow, excitedly; "no, you don't! By Moses, I've got enough! I'll move."

And he did move, while the other passengers laughed aloud in their glee.



THE CAPITAL OF MINNESOTA IN 1898.

It is a good time to take stock of what we have accomplished in St. Paul, and to look at our future prospects. We are just emerging from a long and gloomy period of depression, which has afflicted us in common with all other Western and most Eastern cities. We suffered less than many other places, for the reason that our trade was firmly grounded and in the hands of strong concerns, and our banks, in the main, very solid; while we had not run so wildly into real estate speculation as some towns further west. The sun of prosperity is now plainly rising, and soon we shall be in the full daylight of business activity and general prosperity. Let us therefore look about and see what our condition is.

We find in the first place, and as our main fact, a well-built city of about 150,000 souls. It has excellent paving and sidewalks, good drainage, a superior system of water supply, good public buildings, ample public-school facilities, a thoroughly modern system of street transportation by cable and electric cars, big mercantile houses in all lines of wholesale trade, elegant retail stores, railroads reaching out to every point of the compass, and, best of all, health conditions so good that our mortality rate is lower than in any city of the Union of over 100,000 people. Most all our first-rate city facilities were created, it is true, in what we call the boom period, but we have retained them, and we are still doing business at the old stand. Nor have we stood still during the long years of depression. We have put up a goodly number of business buildings, built a great many handsome homes, paved our streets with asphalt, and wholly renewed our entire sidewalk system by putting down artificial stone blocks in place of the old wooden planks. Many lines of trade have become strengthened and solidified, and many new manufacturing enterprises have been established that are going along smoothly. We have certainly taken no steps backward, and that is something to be content with.

The most significant thing in our recent history has been the great development of minor manufacturing. According to the recent re-

port of the State Commissioner of Labor Statistics, St. Paul now has 473 establishments, employing 10,828 operatives. The number of concerns is even greater than in our neighboring city of Minneapolis, which we have always looked upon as peculiarly a manufacturing town. The figures are a surprise to our own people, but they are strictly accurate. The public has had its eyes fixed on a few large concerns, and has not realized how steadily the small establishments were multiplying. The effort made about ten years ago to establish factories by real estate and money bonuses was, as we all know, a very qualified success, but the industrial movement that has come about from natural causes will continue to live and flourish. The following table shows the number of persons employed in the thirteen leading industries of St. Paul:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| Boots and shoes..... | 1,221 |
| Breweries..... | 295 |
| Cigars..... | 383 |
| Clothing..... | 825 |
| Confectionery..... | 248 |
| Foundries, etc..... | 931 |
| Furniture, etc..... | 441 |
| Furs and hides..... | 459 |
| Laundries..... | 397 |
| Printing, binding, etc..... | 1,461 |
| Railroad shops..... | 1,435 |
| Sash and doors..... | 305 |
| Wood working..... | 107 |

The jobbing trade of the city enjoyed a better year in 1897 than in any previous year since 1892. During the last half-year especially, the increase in sales and the improvement in collections have been very marked, and in all lines of business cheerfulness and confidence now prevail. St. Paul's trade has been considerably extended into regions not heretofore reached by our salesmen. In the fall, an immense demand for certain classes of goods arose to supply the new Alaska trade. This new demand will be felt in increased volume next spring, and St. Paul will continue to profit by it. This city is the old trade center of the whole Northwest, and no recent developments have at all shaken its supremacy. Its jobbers cover a territory 2,000 miles long by 500 miles wide, and all the further growth of population and

business in that territory will bring increased custom to their warehouses. They look upon the future with the liveliest hopes and with the comfortable assurance of having a "sure thing."

THE STOCK YARDS.

The most important development of the past year was unquestionably the leasing of the great Union Stock Yards plant at South St. Paul by the famous dressed-beef and pork-packing concern of Swift & Company, of Chicago, which insures the enlargement of the plant and its constant running at its full capacity. We copy from the *Pioneer Press* the following account of the history of that plant and of its present operations:

"The Union Stock Yards at South St. Paul began operations in 1888, and during that year a fair proportion of live stock was disposed of by sale and slaughter at that point. The stock-yards maintained a steady growth down to the year 1891, when the receipts were: Cattle, 136,983; calves, 5,654; hogs, 263,479; sheep, 89,423. In 1892 there was a falling off in receipts, but in 1893 the number of cattle received was 109,644. In 1895 the number of hogs coming into the yards was 364,455, and in 1896 313,736. In the early part of the present year complications arose between the stock-yards company and the operators of the packing-plant and the latter was closed down. During the month of April the receipts of cattle were 2,695; of calves, 1,054; of hogs, 6,952, and of sheep 758. This was practically the month of greatest depression in the history of the company.

The management, however, took hold with a will and determination to bring the property out of its misfortunes, and the growth of the business from the 1st of May to the 1st of October was due to their efforts to bridge over their difficulties in spite of adverse fate, and early in October a long lease of the large packing plant was signed with the Messrs. Swift. By the close of August the management showed an increase in cattle received during the month to the number of 20,273 and of hogs 11,041, although in May, under the sustaining of the market by the management, 22,724 hogs were

received; in June, 19,622, and in July, 12,396. In September, the receipts of cattle for the month reached 31,358, the highest number ever received at the yards during the company's history. Owing to the closing of the packing-plant on the retirement of the former lessees, hogs were diverted somewhat from this market to other points, but in October the receipts were 20,498; in November 32,956, and in December approximately 40,000. The shortage in hogs was due also in part to the quarantine against hog cholera. Notwithstanding the unfortunate conditions which prevailed during a part of 1897, the record shows a splendid increase in the receipts, as a whole, over the previous year. For instance, in 1896 the total receipts of cattle were 92,062, and in 1897 they were 172,033, an increase of 79,971. The decrease in the numbers of hogs received was 33,765. On the other hand, there were received 28,611 calves, as against 5,750 in 1896, a gain of 22,861. Of sheep there were received 336,842 in 1897, as against 200,415 in 1896, an increase of 136,427.

The Swift & Company establishment took possession of their property in the early weeks of October, and during that month they slaughtered 3,310 cattle, 168 calves, 2,066 sheep and 1,701 hogs. Meanwhile they were improving their plant, and in November they slaughtered 7,480 cattle, 187 calves, 2,785 sheep and 12,606 hogs. During the first three weeks of December the number of cattle slaughtered was 6,030,

of calves 82, of sheep 2,574, and of hogs 25,308, making a total between October 15 and December 25 of 16,820 cattle, 387 calves, 7,425 sheep and 39,615 hogs. The plant is capable of disposing of about as many again when all improvements are completed and the stock is forthcoming. What this industry means to this vicinity may be estimated on the basis of the statement that the concern already carries on its rolls about seven hundred employees. It is also the means of quickening all kinds of industries of a local character, as well as adding materially to the revenues of the farmers of the State and territories in other States tributary to this market, and to the railroad companies transporting the raw material, the dressed meats and the packed provisions making up the daily output of the plant.

The location of the Swift & Company establishment at this point has afforded much stimulation to the general market. Live stock that hitherto has been shipped to Chicago and other points for sale, is now diverted to St. Paul, where the equivalent of Chicago prices is maintained.

In addition to the demands of Swift & Company for live stock, there are buyers representing other concerns and individuals seeking butcher-stock on this market. Among these may be mentioned the Armour Packing Company, the Cudahy Bros. Company, Staples & King, W. E. McCormick, Henry Haas, the

Sutphin Company, the Duluth Beef Company, Leo Gottfried, James R. King, Hindman & Company, N. Keller, S. W. Searles, John Marty, Drummond Bros., F. Petschl, Delaney Bros., W. H. Carr, and Gottwerth & Drews. Beside these there are a number of well-known and extensive buyers of stockers and feeders. Some of these are Nelson Morris, E. C. Wilson & Company, Oakley & Company, Heilbrun & Company, Joe Bolton & Sons, Slimmer & Thomas, Hankey Bros., and Searles Bros. Some of the principal commission firms are the C. L. Haas Company, G. M. Prouty & Company, Tomlinson, Bowles & Company, Rogers & Rogers, Cunningham Live Stock Company, Thuet Bros., Slimmer & Thomas, Hankey Bros., Bolton & Sons, and Fitch Bros. Charles Fitch, of the last mentioned firm, was the first commission man at South St. Paul after the establishment of the yards there.

In addition to Swift & Company, a lease has been made with W. E. McCormick of a smaller plant for the supply of fresh meats. This plant will have a capacity for consuming 300 cattle, 300 hogs, and 300 sheep a day. It has not yet begun operations owing to the work of repairs now being carried on, but slaughtering is expected to begin early in the present year.

A cursory comparison of the figures above given as to live stock received and that slaughtered will indicate that a large proportion of the animals coming into this market are bought



A SECTIONAL VIEW OF THE ST. PAUL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE DURING ONE OF ITS REGULAR WEEKLY SESSIONS.

(From a flash-light photo by E. R. SHEPARD.)

for shipment elsewhere. This is especially true of cattle and sheep. A large number of calves have entered the yards during the past few months which are bought by feeders in the lower sections of Minnesota, in Iowa, in many instances, for transportation to the ranches of the Northwest and to Kansas and Texas. The stockers and feeders are taken in most cases to Iowa and other points South. It will thus be seen that while Minnesota is engaged, to an increasing extent, year by year, in the raising of cattle, the industry of feeding and fattening is not carried on so extensively as it obviously should be by the farmers of the State. At the same time, the market is sought for this young stock because of the hardy character of the animals and their good condition when they reach the place of sale and distribution into other territory.

The growth of the business at South St. Paul has been so considerable, accompanied by assurances of very large proportions in the immediate future, that the company has already commenced work on an enlargement of the yard space to about twice its present size, and at a cost of \$8,000. The water-works have been extended and improved at a cost of \$40,000. The industry of sheep-feeding here has so greatly enlarged that facilities for this branch of the business have been increased by the construction of barns at a cost of \$20,000. The levee system has been extended around the south end of the stock yard proper at a cost of \$12,000. Work is already in progress, under contract, on the filling in of low ground along the southern line of the property, in order to make it available for future extensions. This will cost about \$50,000, and a force of about 100 men is employed in connection with this improvement at the present time. The company

has also purchased a large dynamo, and early in the spring months a system of electric lighting will be put into operation. This involves an expenditure of \$8,000. The company already owns, in connection with its property, about twelve miles of railway track, to which an extension of two miles is now being made at a cost of about \$7,000. When all the improvements are effected, which will be early in the present year, the area of the stock-yards property will show an improvement in the shape of sheds and pens about double that which is now visible from the railway station.

THE BANKS.

During the fall of 1896 and the winter of 1897, five of the St. Paul banks suspended payment. This was certainly a bad record for a bad year, but two of the five are on their feet again and have resumed business, and two more are in process of reorganization, leaving only one that has been wiped out. These suspensions did not grow out of immediate conditions, but were the long-delayed results of imprudent banking in the flush times, and especially of the folly of carrying inflated real estate. The banks that weathered the financial storm, in spite of the great strain upon them, are stronger today than ever. Their good management has won anew the confidence of the business community, and their deposits are so large that they have a glut of money for which they are seeking desirable investment. In fact, the supply of money far exceeds the demand. Our savings banks have reduced the rate of interest they pay depositors, and the old practice of the regular banks of paying interest on daily balances has pretty much disappeared. These banks are willing to take care of the money of the business public, but cannot afford to pay interest for the privilege of storing it. Today it may

be truthfully said that no line of business in St. Paul is in a more solid condition than that of banking. There is, of course, great conservatism in making loans, but good business paper is always bankable.

NEW APARTMENT HOUSES.

So many apartment houses have been built during the past year, that there might almost be said to be a movement in the direction of this style of construction. Most of the new apartment houses are in the choice residence district of the city, on St. Anthony Hill. They are not large, like the Albion, the Aberdeen, and others built in good times; some of them are quite small, and the range of cost for all of them is probably from \$10,000 to \$50,000. The notable thing about them is that they fill up with tenants almost as soon as the carpenters and painters are out. The brisk demand for these dwellings may no doubt be called a hard times' phenomenon, as it comes from the desire of many people to economize on heating and to live in smaller quarters than they have been in the habit of doing; but to some extent the population of the new flats must be regarded as a gain to the city, for there are now very few empty houses to be noticed. In fact, the whole city appears to be comfortably well-filled up. The apartment houses are handsome architecturally, and are ornaments to the districts wherein they stand.

GENERAL BUILDING.

The cost of all the buildings erected in the city during the year 1897 was \$1,225,000. Most of the record is on the building of small homes by people who have occupied them for their permanent residences. No very notable business construction has taken place. Perhaps the new works of the American Hoist and Derrick Company best deserve special men-



A CORNER OF ST. PAUL'S BUSINESS DISTRICT AS SEEN FROM DAYTON'S BLUFF.—UNION DEPOT YARDS IN THE FOREGROUND.



AMERICAN LIVE-STOCK FEEDERS' AND BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION IN CONVENTION IN ST. PAUL ON JANUARY 11.—From flash-light photo by E. R. SHEPARD. President Theodore L. Schurmeier in the act of introducing Mr. J. J. Hill, president of the Great Northern Railway Company.

tion. A few handsome houses of the better class have been put up by people of means. Looking over the city now, it does not appear in any quarter to be at all overbuilt, and it is evident that when business prosperity is once more firmly established there will be a new building movement. All recent enterprise in building has been in the direction of filling up vacant spaces in the interior of the city and utilizing valuable building lots. The present appearance of St. Paul, when viewed from any of the surrounding heights, is remarkably solid and compact. It has none of the look of a hastily-built Western town. It is not spread out thin, except in the remote suburbs.

THE RAILROADS.

St. Paul has six railroad lines to Chicago, four lines to the Pacific Coast, three to the head of Lake Superior at Duluth and Superior, three to Kansas City and Omaha. The marked increase in the traffic and earnings of these lines during the past year shows conclusively that the whole trade territory of the city is resuming its normal business activities. There is no better barometer of general business conditions than the operations of the railroads, for the reason that they come into close relations with the entire community. When times are dull and business bad, people travel very little, and the consumption of all kinds of merchandise falls off. An increase of railroad business is a sure sign of a revival in all kinds of business. The railroads are first to respond to a change of conditions in the business world.

The most important movement in the railway situation during 1897 was the successful completion of the reorganization plan for the Northern Pacific. This pioneer road to the Pacific Coast was purchased by a new company made up mainly of the security holders of the old corporation. The new company purchased all the property and franchises of the old corporation, and its reorganization, being conducted on a basis of equity towards all holders of stock and bonds, had been effected with entire harmony. A new president came into control, and careful economies have been effected in all departments; so that the road is now in a position of absolute security financially, its earnings being already considerably in excess of the interest charges on its debt. In fact, the earnings were so unexpectedly large in October and November, that a dividend was declared on the preferred stock—the first dividend of any sort earned by the road since the enterprise was begun by Jay Cooke and his associates. The prospects of the road are exceedingly bright. A notable feature of its recent business is the large increase of land sales, which plainly indicate a movement of new settlers into the territory along its lines. The land department reports that all the sales have been made in small tracts, and that nearly every one has been to an actual settler, whose purpose is to make a home on the land and cultivate it. Every family going upon the Northern Pacific grant means a valuable gain to the business of St. Paul. Many of the new

settlers were people who have been living on rented farms in the older regions of the West, and who have become convinced that it is wise for them to secure ownership in the soil.

The Great Northern, which rides safely through all financial crises, has kept steadily on its career of success and has paid its interest and dividends as usual. While it parallels the Northern Pacific all the way to the Coast, it runs far enough from the older line to have an entirely separate belt of country to develop, and it has embarked in the work of building up this belt with a great deal of zeal and intelligence. It is now doing some new construction work for the purpose of securing a short line across Northern Minnesota from the grain-fields of the Lower Red River Valley to the head of Lake Superior. As a feeder to St. Paul, this great system is of the highest value.

The old St. Paul and Duluth road is in very energetic hands, and its management has entered vigorously upon the work of settling the lands along its road, which were, until lately, only regarded as valuable for pine timber. When abandoned by the lumbermen, however, most of these lands have been shown to be valuable for dairying and general farming, and the capable manager of the land department has succeeded in placing many hundreds of settlers upon them. Extensive regions, until recently only a scraggy wilderness, have been converted into snug farms; new villages have sprung up, and old ones have gained in population and business. At the rate settlement

has been going forward during the past two years, it will not be long until the entire country between St. Paul and Duluth will be well occupied. As the nearest large distributing point for goods, St. Paul naturally profits directly by this interesting new development.

The Soo Road, reaching eastward as a trunk line to the East and westward across Minnesota and North Dakota to a connection with the Canadian Pacific in Assiniboia, has made a good record both in settlement and traffic. St. Paul merchants regard this road as very important to the jobbing trade of the city, for the reason that it gives them a route for their goods from Eastern cities entirely independent of Chicago, and serves as a regulator on the rates of the Chicago roads. In railroad circles the Soo is looked upon as a good deal of a rate disturber, but its disturbances have always worked for the benefit of St. Paul, and are looked upon with complacency by the business public of this city.

The Northwestern road's auxiliary, the Omaha, is one of the most important of the St. Paul lines. It is one of the most popular of the Chicago roads, and it connects us directly with Omaha and Nebraska in one direction, and with Duluth, St. Paul and Ashland in the other. Its Omaha line traverses the valley of the Minnesota River, one of the very best farming districts in the State. It has its general offices in St. Paul, and is a strong support to the trade of the city.

Mr. A. B. Stickney's road, the Chicago Great Western, is a St. Paul enterprise and shows a steady development in earnings. Its line to Chicago has been put in first-class condition during the past year by a liberal expenditure on road-bed and track, and its line to Kansas City is also in good shape. This company has been an active developer of the dairying industry, and has brought a new prosperity to many of the old farming districts on its road. Its management makes a close study of all local conditions, and always seeks the friendship and co-operation of the farmers.

The Burlington has come to the front as a favorite passenger route to Chicago and St. Louis during the past year, by putting on a superb equipment of new trains. These trains were characterized by their builder, the late Geo. M. Pullman, as the finest in the world. Each consists of a combination buffet and baggage car, two day coaches, a compartment sleeper, a sleeper of the usual pattern, and a dining-car. The upholstery, decorations, lighting and service are unsurpassed. The road has gained many new patrons since it put on these trains.

The old favorite route between the Twin Cities and Chicago is the Milwaukee, and in spite of all the new competition, it always runs well-filled trains and always keeps up its excellent standard of comfort. The Milwaukee company also has lines across Minnesota into the heart of North Dakota, and from St. Paul down into the best parts of Iowa. Its Western Minnesota lines place St. Paul in communication with some of the best settled and wealthiest agricultural districts in the State.

The Wisconsin Central is also a very important line to the business of St. Paul, reaching, as it does, many of the best lumbering and manufacturing towns in Northern and Central Wisconsin, and running both to Milwaukee and Chicago.

There remains to mention the Minneapolis and St. Louis, or the Albert Lea Road, which, although it is managed in Minneapolis, has a terminus in St. Paul and is valuable because of reaching many important towns in Southern Minnesota and Northern Iowa not touched by other roads, and of its connection with the

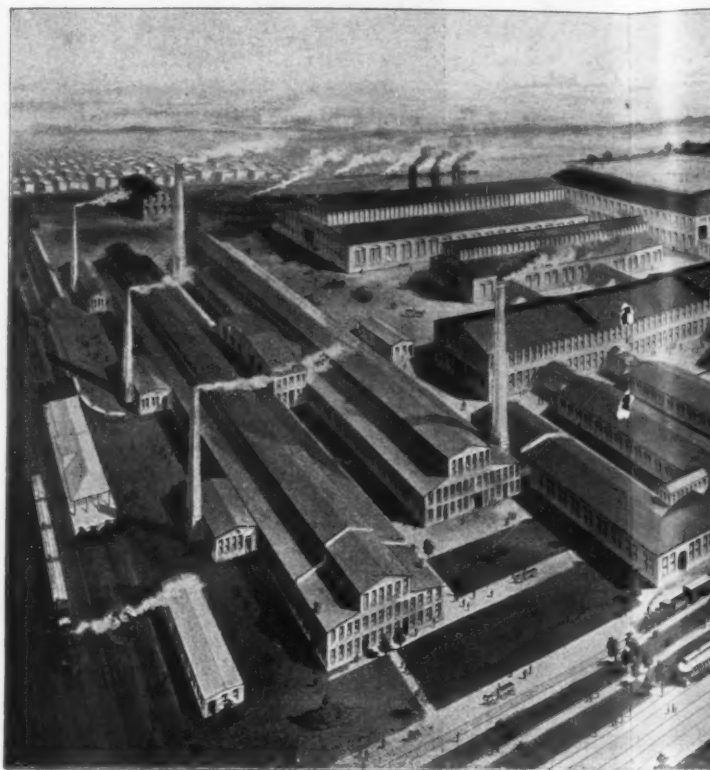
Rock Island system, which makes it a link in a through line between St. Paul and Denver.

Generally speaking, the railroad managers are confident of a much greater increase in traffic this year than they obtained last year, and agree that St. Paul is going to profit largely by the gain in railway business.

ST. PAUL'S NEIGHBOR.

A city grew up at St. Paul for the reason that before there were any railroads in this region the only way of getting into the country and shipping supplies into it was by steamboat, and St. Paul was the highest point on the Mississippi which steamboats could reach at low water. Besides, it was near the mouth of the Minnesota, then a navigable stream and a thoroughfare to some of the best parts of Minnesota. In early days, steamboats were so numerous at St. Paul that they had to wait their turns for a chance to tie up to the wharves and unload.

Ten miles farther up the Mississippi, the river tumbled over a sheer precipice about thirty feet high. Here was a great water-power, and the early settlers saw that here was the best place to grind their wheat and saw the lumber for their buildings. Two rival towns, St. Anthony and Minneapolis, were started on the opposite banks of the river near the falls, and in a few years coalesced into a city which took the latter name. Thus it came about that the selling of goods was firmly established at St. Paul, while milling and manufacturing created a city close by at Minneapolis. When the railroads were built, neither place obtained any advantage, for every road which reached one went on to the other, and a double-headed railroad center was created. For a time the rivalry between the two cities was intense. Every possible advantage that one could get over the other was contended for almost with ferocity. But each grew, and for a period this spirit of rivalry no doubt helped the growth of both. In the end



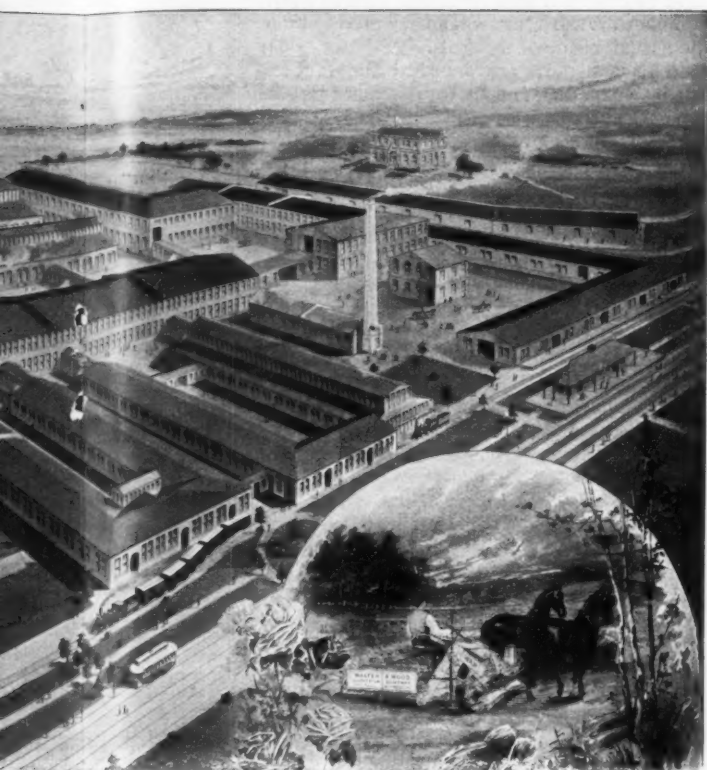
THE IMMENSE PLANT OF THE WALTER A. WOOD COMPANY

it went too far, however, for it multiplied business houses, factories and banks beyond the power of the tributary country to sustain them. In fact, we created at great expense the business plant of two large cities to do the business which would have naturally and inevitably come to one if the other had not existed, and we therefore divided the trade of the Northwest between them, and spent a great deal



BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF THE ST. PAUL UNION STOCK YARDS

Unusual interest attaches to these yards, owing to the remarkable business development at that point during the past six months. They have located there, insure a broad and liberal market for everything in the live-stock line. Gen. M. D. F.



WALTER A. WOOD HARVESTER COMPANY, ST. PAUL.

of effort in a constant combat for supremacy.

The sober second thought of the two cities now, is that the old fight should cease and that there should be a spirit of friendly co-operation in an effort to build up, out of St. Paul and Minneapolis, a single magnificent Northwestern metropolis, strong enough to contend with Chicago for the trade of this region and to rival Chicago in a large part of her own special terri-

tory. Each city now realizes the follies it committed in the crazy days of real estate speculation, and has no disposition to repeat it. No more weak concerns will be subsidized to come into either city for the purpose of swelling statistics and giving one a chance to brag over the other. Municipal union is now talked of, but it is still far distant. What can be confidently expected now is a movement for commercial union which will draw together the business men of both cities, throw all new enterprises into the small area of unoccupied territory lying between them, increase the facilities for intercommunication, and eventually open the way to the creation of a single metropolis. The dual city must always have two business centers, but they will not always pull apart like stupid oxen in a yoke. Their strength will soon be united to achieve for themselves a new and solid growth.

THE GENERAL SITUATION.

We feel in St. Paul very cheerful about the future. We have come through the six long years of depression without loss of any of our business facilities or business energy, and our recent school statistics show that we have actually gained in population. There are probably ten thousand more people in the city today than there was after the exodus to the country which followed the panic of 1893. All our jobbing houses are still in existence, and all of them are stronger than ever. Our trade has steadily extended in the territory it occupies and in its aggregate volume. Our railroads are again prosperous, and ready to spend money in the improvement of their tracks and equipment and in the settlement and promotion of the Northwestern Country. Manufactures have followed the course they have followed in the old cities of the East, and have come in to establish themselves close to the wholesale houses, which are ready to handle their products. We have not been idle during the hard times, but have steadily improved our city,

making it a model city for health and comfort. We are building a superb new State capitol which will be worthy of our great State. Our banks are strong and abundantly supplied with money for the needs of trade. Our credit is first-class in Eastern money markets. We see the country growing all around us, and note the new prosperity of the farmers and of the country towns. We know that we have in the Northwest the best new region and the region having the most room and opportunity for new population of any part of the United States. We know that population must increase in all the country that trades with us, and we know that as population increases our trade must grow and our city must grow. We have no extravagant ideas, but we shall push ahead with both conservatism and energy, making the most of our advantages, which are many, and looking with courage to the future.

The hard times are at last outgrown. A single fair crop with a good price changed the whole condition of affairs. Other good crops will come, and wheat will probably never be as low again as it was a year ago. Let us rejoice in the light of the new day of general business prosperity. Let us stop talking and thinking hard times, and labor together for an era of new progress and new general development. We are in a country that possesses grand natural resources; let us now make the best of them.

ANACONDA'S UNIQUE WATER SUPPLY.

In an article descriptive of the acquired rights of the Anaconda (Mont.) Mining Company to all the water in Lake Hearst, which is fed by the melting of the perpetual snows there, the *Minneapolis Improvement Bulletin* says that the lake lies up against Mount Haggin, 2,900 feet above the street in front of the Montana Hotel. The company will raise the bank about Lake Hearst so as to make it a reservoir with a capacity of nearly a billion gallons, and giving a daily flow of about 4,000,000 gallons down a slope of 3,000 feet. A steel pipe-line will carry this water down six miles to Anaconda, where an immense reservoir will be built to receive it. This reservoir will be 320 feet higher than Anaconda's business center and will be 400 feet wide and a quarter of a mile long. The supply main from Lake Hearst will terminate in a fountain in the center of the reservoir.

Only a portion of the enormous pressure which might be maintained will be used, but a solid jet of water, two or three inches in diameter, will be thrown fully 200 feet vertically into the air, while around the base of the fountain will be a fringe of spray, consisting of rows of jets, rising to varying heights at varying angles. The fountain will be, it is believed, the largest in the world. The jets will rise from a massive base of rough masonry. The embankment which will form the reservoir, will consist of a tough, tenacious clay excavated from a large deposit in the vicinity, and it will be over 170 feet thick at its base and twelve feet wide at its top. Lengthwise through its center will be a massive wall of concrete. No pipe will be allowed to pass through the embankment, but in the solid rock beyond its end a valve well will be excavated and connected. Every precaution that engineering science can suggest, will be used to make the distributing reservoir and Lake Hearst perfect reservoirs for holding water and keeping it from contamination. All the valves regulating the flow of water from each reservoir, will be electrically controlled and capable of operation from the office of the water department. When completed, there will be no point in the city where water cannot be thrown 100 feet vertically by direct pressure.



UNION STOCK YARDS AT SOUTH ST. PAUL, MINN.

past six months. The Swift Company, The Armour Packing Company, The Hammond Company and numerous other large dealers who line. Gen. M. D. Flower is president and H. B. Carroll is superintendent of the Stock-Yards Company.

IN THE BUSINESS WORLD.

The Walter A. Wood Harvester Company.

Perhaps no one industry has done more to advertise St. Paul than that represented by the Walter A. Wood Harvester Company. During the past season their popular harvesting machines were in demand everywhere, and the immense works were operated to their full capacity. The coming season promises to be an equally busy one. So generally successful has the company been, that its affairs are now on a solid financial basis and its profitable future assured beyond a doubt. A series of prosperous years will see this great enterprise occupy a position of first prominence among the industrial interests of the Northwest.

Buyers and Sellers of Hogs, Cattle and Sheep.

Fitch Bros., live-stock commission merchants at South St. Paul, have been on the grounds there since the fall of 1887. They came from Iowa. Charles Fitch, the energetic manager, is said to have sold the first cattle and hogs which passed over the scales at the South St. Paul yards. The firm buys and sells all kinds of live stock, and its large experience and acquaintance, together with the prompt personal attention given to its patrons' interests, make it a popular one to deal with. The accompanying illustration shows Charles Fitch astride of his famous old mount—"Bogus." This veteran charger was brought to the yards from Omaha. He has been a pack-horse, has crossed the great plains twice, and has been in many fierce skirmishes with the Indians. Although he has been used in the stock-yards nine years and is now over twenty years old, he is still on duty in the yards and is classed as about the best saddle and rope-horse in the country. He knows all the tricks of the lasso-thrower, and is famed for his good horse-sense. Fitch Bros' office is in Room 27 of the Exchange Building, South St. Paul.

An Old Live-Stock Commission House.

In Room 19, Exchange Building, at South St. Paul, where the great Union Stock Yards are located, is The Chas. L. Haas Commission Company, one of the most active and successful live-stock commission houses doing business in that hustling community. Mr. Haas has been in this line of trade about thirty years, and he has lived in St. Paul forty-two years. During all this time he has handled an enormous number of cattle, hogs and sheep, the business, at present, amounting in volume to about \$2,000,000 per annum. Mr. Haas is general manager of the company and gives much of his personal attention to the selling of live stock, being assisted in this department of the business by Mr. Johnson, who is an expert cattle seller; by J. Kirk, who gets top prices for sheep; and by W. Patton, who knows how to squeeze full values out of hogs. About six men are employed to look after the welfare of stock in the yards, some twelve hands being employed by the company altogether. The Chas. L. Haas Commission Company is thoroughly well known

throughout the Northwestern States by all stockmen and by all dealers in live stock. Customers are treated promptly, and have the advantage of every facility that can possibly be afforded them at this great live-stock market.

The Study of Bookkeeping and Shorthand.

A recent visit to the J. D. Hess Business College found it still located in the Pioneer Press Building, at the corner of Fourth and Robert streets, but occupying larger and much better rooms on another floor. The change was necessitated by the rapidly growing attendance, for which, no doubt, Prof. D. S. Coffey, the principal, is duly grateful. Young men and young women do not usually patronize commercial colleges of unknown reputation, and the simple fact that this college has found it necessary to again seek larger quarters and better



CHAS. FITCH AND HIS FAMOUS SADDLE-HORSE
"BOGUS."

facilities, speaks volumes in praise of the practical knowledge taught there. The present attendance is the largest ever experienced by the institution. And it is an earnest school that one looks in upon. The students are there to acquire knowledge that shall render them competent bookkeepers, stenographers and typewriters, and they bend to their work eagerly. The courses include the branches named and penmanship, practical grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization, letterpress and carbon copying, mimeograph and duplicator work, correspondence, business arithmetic, etc.

To render the pupils thoroughly proficient in shorthand and typewriting, the college management has opened a regular custom office

where all kinds of work is done for business and professional men from the outside world. Pupils thus learn just what they need to know of actual business methods. Professor Coffey and his assistants are practical and very efficient instructors, and their system of teaching is so perfect that graduates from the J. D. Hess Business College experience no trouble in securing good positions. These pupils, by the way, come from many States, the Northwest being grandly represented. The school is open the year round, and there are evening as well as day sessions. A catalogue will be sent to any address on application.

Commission Business at South St. Paul.

There is not a great deal of poetry in the live-stock business of Rogers & Rogers, live-stock commission merchants in Room 21 of the Exchange Building at South St. Paul, but there is a big volume of business done there, and it would do a stockman good to see how easily and systematically Messrs. W. E. & N. P. Rogers handle it. They buy and sell hogs, cattle and sheep, their transactions covering the entire Northwestern country and making them well acquainted with growers and shippers of live stock in many States.

Rogers & Rogers started their business at South St. Paul when the stock yards were first established there, and they have built up a very important trade. The business receives their personal attention. All matters intrusted to them are looked after carefully and with due regard to promptness. The force employed is large enough to enable the firm to give the best of care to the stock consigned to it, and a broad experience and wide knowledge of the business qualify the members to obtain the highest market prices. It is a live firm in every sense of the word, and it wants all the business that can be sent to it.

Where Choice Cigars are Made.

The poet and the philosopher alike find solace in the aroma of a good cigar. The world over, be it on land or on sea, or in the depths of primeval forests, men of all classes and of all nationalities find comfort in tobacco. It soothes the rich man, takes from the poor man the sting of poverty, and probably does more to make the whole world kin than any other agency.

And if it were possible for all men to smoke the celebrated "City of St. Paul" cigar, made by F. W. Tuschets' Sons at 349 Wabasha Street, in St. Paul, their peace of mind and joy of life would be greater still. The firm of F. W. Tuschets' Sons was established in 1854, nearly half a century ago. It is the pioneer cigar manufactory of the Northwest, and its reputation extends throughout a broad territory and among hundreds of dealers. When this house puts out a new brand of goods, the public may know that it is all right; for it imports its own tobacco and manufactures only the choicest weeds smoked. The "City of St. Paul" and the "El Orador" cigars, made by this firm exclusively, are brands that are famous wherever known. They are made in several different sizes and have stood every test that cigars can be subjected to. These brands are made of the finest quality of Havana tobacco that grows, and they are free from all chemical flavorings, which are used so much nowadays. Smoke one of these popular cigars and you will be satisfied. It will not sicken you; it will just fill a long felt want. If you are a judge of choice cigars, you will probably say—"Ah! that's the pure stuff; that's what I like." And forthwith you will buy a full box, and let poor cigars severely alone.

Of course F. W. Tuschets' Sons make many other brands of cigars, among them some most

excellent five-cent goods. But they cannot be named here. Nor is there room to speak of the large general assortment of tobaccos and smokers' articles which one sees there. Dealers should write for particulars.

The house is noted for its enterprise and originality. Its artistic labels are admired everywhere. Indeed, the beautiful view of St. Paul in this number of our magazine is a fac simile of the illustrated portion of the firm's "City of St. Paul" cigar label, and we are under obligations to Messrs. Tuchselt's Sons for its use.

Among St. Paul's Jobbers and Manufacturers.

It is in the early morning and the early evening hours that St. Paul's wholesale district presents its liveliest aspect. It is then that the thousands of operatives are wending their way either to or from the great factories of the city. They come in crowds, in throngs, a long procession of men and women who are skilled in the various departments of human industry. One morning we stood on the corner of Fourth and Sibley streets and watched the hundreds of operatives entering the large jobbing and manufacturing house of Finch, Van Slyk, Young & Company, an establishment that extends from Fourth Street clear through to Fifth, on Sibley. Swiftly they came—singly, in groups, sometimes in battalions. It was an inspiring sight, and we were moved to enter the office part of the big building and ask what all these operatives found to do.

Seeking a member of the house and making known our wants, he courteously informed us that the company's factory-rooms were open to inspection and that our visit would be welcomed.

The manufacturing departments are on the fourth floor. They run from block to block—a floor space large enough to put a dozen trains of cars in, and still have room for a station. Hundreds of machines were in operation—hundreds of contented faces bent busily over their work. It was an army which we saw—an army of workers in one of the largest and most important industrial hives of the Northwest. It looked as if they could manufacture more clothing than would ever be needed, yet we were informed that the demand for these sterling goods is so great that the company is compelled to increase its facilities at once, putting in scores of additional machines and operatives.

The manufacturing department of Finch, Van Slyk, Young & Company was established



A SECTION OF THE IMMENSE FACTORY AT FINCH, VAN SLYK, YOUNG & COMPANY'S.

in 1870. It is the pioneer furnishing-goods factory of the Northwest. There has been no pause in its growth. From the very start the demand for this factory product has grown firmer and firmer. The company's aim has been—not to see how cheap a quality of goods it could make for its vast trade, but rather how good a quality of wearing apparel it could turn out. It makes laundered shirts, and all kinds and grades of negligé shirts;—it makes full lines of pants, overalls, lumbermen's coats, pants, vests and underwear, goods that stand all manner of tests. One of the company's greatest specialties the past two years has been ladies' dress-skirts and wrappers. They are so well made, so perfect in fit and style, that the highest-class retail houses of the Twin Cities use them almost exclusively. Every one of these fine garments is manufactured under the supervision of expert modistes.

At the present time Messrs. Finch, Van Slyk, Young & Company are straining every nerve to meet the tremendous demand for Alaska supplies. These orders come from dealers in all sections of the Northwestern country. The goods made especially for this trade consist of mackinaws, duck-lined blanket-coats and sheep-lined coats, German socks, heavy blanket underwear, the warmest of blankets,

etc. They will stand the hardest kind of wear, and they can be depended on to keep Jack Frost at bay in the coldest climates. The company knows just what sort of clothing these Klondike prospectors need, and it is shipping large invoices to Western dealers every day. These dealers, by the way, understand that miners, lumbermen, stockmen, etc., require the warmest, strongest and most serviceable garments that can be made, and they long since learned that it was wisest to buy such goods of houses like Finch, Van Slyk, Young & Company, the products of whose factory have a reputation second to none in the whole country. As a matter of fact, this house has been able to sell its clothing successfully, and against the strongest competition from Eastern points, in the mining districts of Michigan and of other States not directly tributary to St. Paul.

Of the house itself very little need be said. Every dealer in the Great Northwest knows that it was founded in 1863 and that it is the pioneer wholesale house in all this section. Mr. Finch has been with it continuously, Mr. Young has served it faithfully for twenty-seven years, and Mr. McConville has devoted to its best interests twenty-six years of his life. There never has been a backward step. For thirty-five years the house has witnessed a steady expansion of its business. It has sought and occupied new territory time and again, until today its goods are sold broadcast throughout the Western and Northwestern States. In point of resources it is able to compete with the most powerful houses in the East. It occupies equal ground with the best, whether it be in regard to stocks carried, completeness of lines shown, or the advantageousness of the terms offered. Go through its great stock-rooms now, at the beginning of 1898, and you will see that the general stock is larger than it has ever been before. The house did a mighty volume of business last year, but it expects to do a much larger one this year; and it is prepared for it. Come in contact with the members of this company and you will find that, while they are wisely conservative, they never lose an opportunity to push their interests or to gain a foothold in desirable mercantile fields. Their representatives are everywhere. The house is popular with the trade, because it has always accorded retailers fair treatment and dealt with them on lines of strict business integrity; and it is safe to say that the same able management, coupled with one of the really largest jobbing and manufacturing plants



OFFICES AND FIRST-FLOOR WAREHOUSE OF THE WHOLESALE DRY-GOODS HOUSE OF FINCH, VAN SLYK, YOUNG & COMPANY, ST. PAUL.

in the country, will enable Messrs. Finch, Van Slyck, Young & Company to maintain their popularity and to make as rapid and as substantial progress in the future as they have in their long and honorable past.

St. Paul as Headquarters for Alaska Supplies.

The other day a gentleman from Montana was chatting with a representative of this magazine, when all at once he branched off onto the Klondike excitement and asked if we were aware of the fact that St. Paul jobbers were getting a big slice of the business incident to such a movement.

"They're selling lots of Klondike goods," he continued, "and they are sure to sell a good deal more. Why, you can hardly name a town in the West that isn't going to send parties of men to the Alaska gold-fields, and the retail merchants in these towns are called on to supply a good part of the men's outfits. Now, St. Paul jobbers know just what is needed in a cold country, and they are able to supply the trade with anything wanted on short notice. They manufacture these goods, you know, and western dealers can do a great deal better here in St. Paul than it is possible for them to do farther East."

After our visitor had gone on his way we strolled down to the big wholesale house of Lindeke, Warner & Schurmeier and hunted up Mr. Warner. He was found in the manufacturing department, where it seemed as if a thousand machines were being operated.

"How is this, Mr. Warner," we asked. "Is your house deriving any great benefit from the Alaska stampede?"

"Do you see those machines?" he replied. "Well, they're running on goods for the Alaska trade, and you will observe that they are kept busy. We are having a regular rush on Klondike wearing apparel, and I am under the impression that it's going to keep up, too."

We were deeply interested in this part of the great business, and asked to see some of the goods made on those lightning machines. There were overalls and men's jackets of all kinds; jean, cottonade and fine cassimere pants; duck-lined coats, and a splendid line of negligé shirts—cheviots, domets, French and English madras, and Scotch flannels. All these goods are made under the firm's famous "Capital

City" brand, and every garment is inspected before it is allowed to go in stock. Imperfect work is forbidden. Seams, buttons and button-holes receive especial care, durability being the chief end in view. Of admirable finish, made of the best materials and cut by the most perfect-fitting patterns, these garments are deservedly popular wherever used.

But the Alaska goods, on which every machine is busy just now, constitute a grade by themselves. They consist of thirty-four and forty-ounce mackinaws, in blue, brown and gold, and of a very superior assortment of sheep-lined duck and leather coats. These coats are warm enough to keep out the most intense cold, and they will stand all kinds of rough usage. The heavy mackinaws afford dry and comfortable covering and will last several seasons. It is suicidal to enter the Klondike Country with an insufficiency of clothing suited to the extreme rigors of that Arctic temperature. Warm underwear, coats, mackinaws, etc., are an absolute necessity, and one should be careful to

buy only the best of these goods. A void shoddy articles. By far the best way is to choose garments that are made by reputable and experienced manufacturers, like Lindeke, Warner & Schurmeier.

A look through the stocks carried by this house reveals the fact that every description of clothing is manufactured for miners, prospectors, campers, woodmen, stockmen and lumbermen. Dealers can purchase complete lines of these goods from this one establishment, and in each instance secure not only the best goods, but the lowest prices and most advantageous terms that can be offered on first quality stock. The firm knows the needs of cold climates, and its garments are made to satisfy these needs. So great is the demand for mackinaws, sheep-lined coats and all such articles, that Lindeke, Warner & Schurmeier now employ a large force of operatives outside of their immense factory rooms—all engaged in rushing orders for Alaska supplies. The manufacturing capacity of the house appears to be practically unlimited. Orders for these Klondike goods are received from every State and every section of the Northwest—even from dealers in Alaska, and still they come.

"Can you meet this constantly increasing demand?" was asked.

"Yes, sir," came the reply from one of the firm. "We are prepared to fill any order that comes to us, whether it be for \$50,000 or for \$100,000 worth of goods."

This shows the magnitude of the house. One hundred thousand dollars' worth of goods is a big pile, but it doesn't cut much of a figure with this establishment, nor would it make much of a hole in the stocks carried. Go into the manufacturing departments and you will see that thousands of finished high-grade garments are turned out every week. The stocks of these goods can not be depleted so long as all those hundreds of machines and operatives are at work, and they are working every day in the year. A big order for Alaska supplies is received. The probability is it will be filled and shipped immediately from made-up stock, but it is easily seen that it would not take long to make every garment outright if necessity called for it.

Every floor of this great wholesale concern is crowded with huge stocks of merchandise. The past year was a good one, but 1898 promises to be better. Anticipating a big trade,



THE WHOLESALE DRY-GOODS HOUSE OF LINDEKE, WARNER & SCHURMEIER, ST. PAUL.



A VIEW OF ONE OF LINDEKE, WARNER & SCHURMEIER'S BIG FACTORY ROOMS.

the firm has put in the largest general stock ever carried in its history. It does not matter what a dealer wants; he can get it here. The lines shown are very full and complete—the selection is perfect. The fact was long ago established that St. Paul is the greatest wholesale dry-goods market in the Northwest, and it becomes more patent every day. Lindeke, Warner & Schurmeier offer every advantage of stock that can be afforded in the Eastern markets, and very superior advantages when it comes to freight-rates and the desirability of stocks for Western consumption. Time was when these points had to be argued with Northwestern retailers, but it is not so now. They have learned that just as good stocks and far better business facilities are afforded them right here in St. Paul, and few indeed are those that now make annual trips to the far East.

So far as the Alaska mercantile field is concerned, it is natural that it should be supplied by St. Paul jobbers and manufacturers. This is not only the nearest great wholesale point to the far North, with direct transportation thereto, but the goods made and sold here are far better adapted to the needs of the men who go to the new gold regions, and they can be obtained more readily and in larger quantities than elsewhere. The Alaska demand has been growing steadily for months past, and it is pleasing to know that houses like Lindeke, Warner & Schurmeier are in position to fill all orders from Northwestern dealers promptly.

Some Western Vehicles.

That the Twin Cities are now recognized as Northwestern headquarters for finished carriage products is a fact due largely to the reputation achieved by the H. A. Muckle Manufacturing Company, whose extensive carriage

and wagon factory is located at the Minnesota Transfer, midway between the two cities. Perhaps no company in the West has been more careful of the quality of the goods sold by it. The H. A. Muckle Manufacturing Company do more than make vehicles; they make the very best vehicles that money can buy. Any concern can make a carriage; but when it comes to the making of the highest grade conveyances, such as will stand the test of wear and strain and use—such as call for superior skill, the best possible facilities and the choicest materials, then it is that the cheap concerns fail and the public learns the difference between a poorly-made vehicle and a first-class one.

The Muckle Company makes all kinds of conveyances. You can go there and get carriages, buggies, phaetons, surreys,



THE ELEGANT ENDICOTT ARCADE OFFICE BUILDING, ST. PAUL.

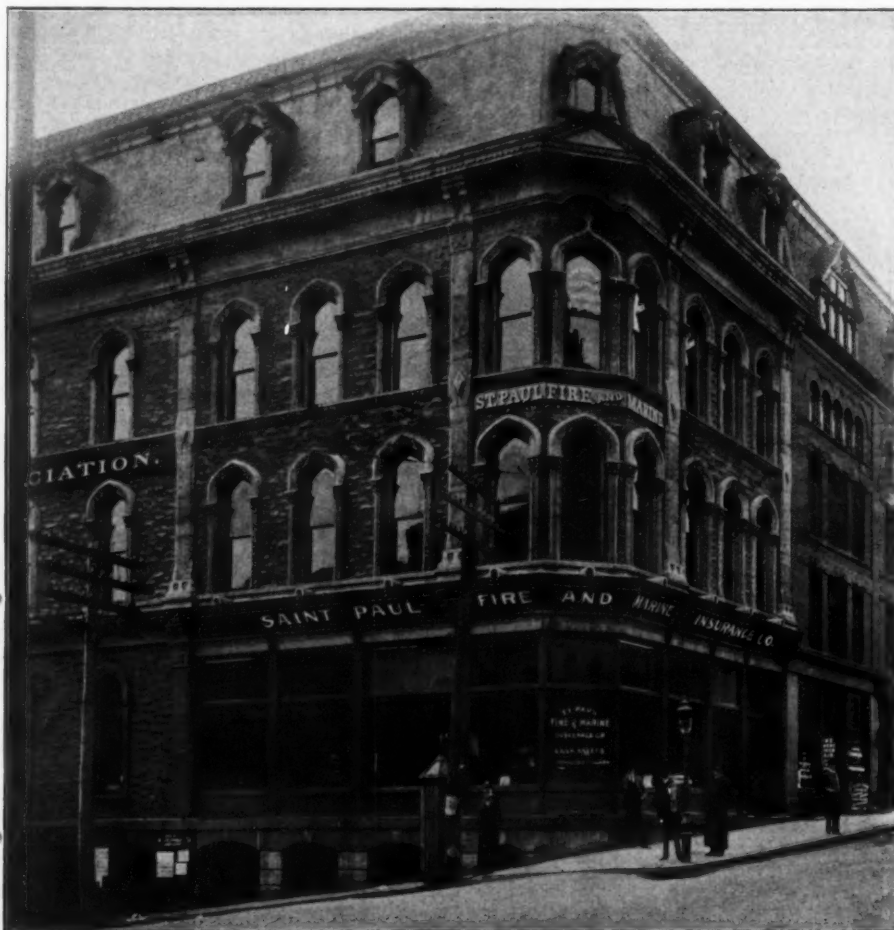
spring-wagons, road wagons, delivery wagons, etc. These vehicles are all modern. Many of the improvements used in their manufacture are owned and controlled by the company exclusively. One great and very popular feature is the Muckle full-swing gear, while another is found in the now celebrated "Muckle" wheels used, which are so light, so strong, so durable and so elegant that they are in demand everywhere. The company's new patent shaft and pole coupling is another striking improvement over old methods. Rubber-tired and ball-bearing wheels are furnished to order, and every vehicle can be depended on to give perfect satisfaction. It is a big plant, a complete plant, a Western plant, and its products are sold direct to Western consumers.

New York Stock Exchange Members.

Charles H. F. Smith & Company, 102 Pioneer Press Building, St. Paul, are the only members of the New York Stock Exchange in the Northwest, a fact worth remembering by those who may have present or future need of experienced and reliable service in their line. They are also members of the Chicago Board of Trade, and have private wires connecting them with all exchanges. Correspondence will receive their prompt and careful attention.

Orders From Alaska.

The Goodyear Rubber Company of St. Paul is receiving orders for its "Gold Seal" lumbermen's overshoe with leather top from dealers in Seattle, Washington, and in Dyce, Alaska. This is the best shoe made for any cold climate. Every pair has a "Gold Seal" sticker attached. A Chinaman in Montana, when shown a shoe without the sticker, said, "No stickee no takee." Even he knew the solid merit which attaches to the Goodyear Company's famous brand. Get the "Gold Seal" goods and you will have the best in the market.



GENERAL OFFICES OF THE ST. PAUL FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE CO., ST. PAUL, MINN.



Entered for transmission through the mails at second-class rates.

E. V. SMALLEY, - EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

BUSINESS ANNOUNCEMENT.

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ST. PAUL, MINN.

ST. PAUL, FEBRUARY, 1898.

OUR GREAT INLAND SEAPORT.

It will no doubt surprise many people to learn that Duluth is now the second seaport in the United States in the amount of tonnage handled. The arrivals and clearances for the combined port of Duluth and Superior for the year 1896 exceeded those of Chicago, Buffalo, Philadelphia, Boston and of all other cities except New York, and they were seventy-two per cent of those of New York. They were, in fact, 13,350,000 tons. Shipments of grain of all kinds were 103,000,000 bushels, of which 33,000,000 bushels were flour, computed as wheat. These are enormous figures, but they may be exceeded by the statistics for 1897, which are not yet made up. The exports of iron ore for 1896 were 5,000,000 tons, and 283,000,000 feet of lumber was manufactured. There is probably no port in the world which has so large a commercial movement as Duluth with a population no greater, and this fact is the chief reliance of our neighbor city at the head of the lake for a new growth. The business done is enormous in proportion to the present number of inhabitants.

A GOOD BILL.

A bill is now pending in Congress to permit persons who made a homestead entry and who have abandoned it or lost it by foreclosure or other cause, to make a second entry. It is a good bill, and ought to pass. The generosity of Uncle Sam will not be strained if the privilege of a second entry be given to the thousands of worthy men who, under the pressure of hard times, have been forced to give up their homesteads to their creditors, or who, finding themselves upon arid and unprofitable land, have given up their claims and removed to more favorable regions. Let such men have another chance to get homes on the public domain. Under the present law a man exhausts his homestead right by one filing. Before the repeal of the pre-emption law, he could take another 160 acres by paying the Government price for it; now he can hold only his original 160-acre homestead entry, and if he has lost

that he can make no second filing. All the Government wants of its lands is to see that they go into the possession of actual settlers. The very best settler may be the man who was deprived of his original claim and who would again like to try the hard experiment of gaining independence on the virgin soil. Give these men another chance. Most of them are good, sturdy American citizens.

MR. WHELOCK'S ARTICLE.

The January number of *Harper's Magazine* contained an excellent article on "The New Northwest," written by the veteran editor of the St. Paul *Pioneer Press*, J. A. Wheelock. The article shows an intimate acquaintance with the whole process of development which has been in progress for twenty-five years in the vast region lying between the Great Lakes and the Pacific Ocean, and a thorough grasp of the importance of this development to the national life. Mr. Wheelock rightly estimates the great influence of new railway construction in attracting population to the Northwest, and much of his article is concerned with the building of the two great systems of roads extending from St. Paul to the Coast. We find so much to commend in the article, in its breadth of view and in the accuracy of information it displays, that we hesitate to call attention to a single error. This error has been made by many other students of Northwestern affairs before Mr. Wheelock, and has led to grave mistakes in the movements for peopling the country west of us. Mr. Wheelock speaks of the entire belt of country between St. Paul and Seattle as a "cultivable region." And so it appears to be to the eye of the traveler, with the exception of about five hundred miles of Rocky Mountain peaks and precipices. The immense plains which stretch out east and west of the Rockies are covered with grass and flowers, and seem to invite the plow of the farmer. In June they are verdant and attractive, but in July the grass turns yellow and brown, and the whole country becomes as dry as a board. No rain falls, and the sparse standing grass is turned into natural hay.

Early settlers and railroad builders were slow to become familiar with the main climatic fact about this central plateau region of the continent and to acknowledge that it does not receive sufficient rainfall for agriculture. From the one hundredth meridian of longitude, which crosses the Missouri River near Pierre, South Dakota, all the way to the Cascade Mountains in Washington and Oregon, the whole country is arid or semi-arid, with the exception of a strip just west of the Rockies in Washington. The annual precipitation of moisture, which in Minnesota is about thirty inches, diminishes steadily as you go west until, on the plains of Eastern Montana, it is only twelve inches, and on the desert along the Columbia River it is hardly worth measuring. You cannot farm without rain unless you resort to irrigation, and irrigation implies expensive dams, canals and ditches. The last outlying settlements in North Dakota where attempts are made to raise wheat, are about one hundred miles west of Bismarck. Then, as you go westward over the Northern Pacific, you cross over a thousand miles of country which is all arid save at a few points where irrigation is practiced, such as the Yellowstone Valley, near Billings, and the Gallatin Valley, near Bozeman. The whole region is an open-range country, where cattle and sheep roam at will. Grass will grow where there is not enough rainfall for wheat or corn, and nature has provided a peculiar kind of grass for the arid regions. It is called bunch-grass, and it grows, not like our Eastern grasses, in a compact sod,

but in little tufts and bunches, each of which is separated by a space of bare ground from its neighbors.

When the Northern Pacific was building, its promoters believed that the country it traverses would all prove to be "cultivable," and they encouraged colonies of settlers to go out into the western part of North Dakota and into Eastern Montana and begin the work of farming. These people plowed and sowed, but they did not "gather into barns," for the reason that when harvest-time came they found nothing to gather. Some of these daring settlers remained to become stock-raisers, others returned to the East, and still others pushed on west to meet the rain-bearing clouds which come from the Pacific. They had learned the lesson that clouds come from the ocean, and that very remote from the ocean there are no clouds and no rains. The interiors of all continents are arid. Even the interior of the great island of Australia is a desert. It is folly to try to raise crops where there are less than twenty-five inches of annual rainfall, and this rule applies to all parts of the world. Probably the most favorable region known for producing wheat with a scanty rainfall is the Walla Walla Country in Washington. There the rains are pretty much all concentrated in the spring and early summer, when the wheat is growing, so that the crop thrives by getting the needed moisture at the right time.

We must not, however, look upon the vast arid and semi-arid region of the Northwest as valueless. It now sustains millions of cattle and sheep, and will sustain many millions more. Its valleys, near the mountains, where the streams run strong and full, will in time be occupied by irrigated farms. Its mines are already a source of great wealth. But we must not count upon this country as likely ever to be densely peopled, like the beautiful prairies of Minnesota and Iowa. It will not build new cities, nor greatly increase the size of those already existing. Irrigation will reclaim a small part of it, and new methods of farming which seek to conserve the moisture in the ground until it is needed for plant life, and thus make the most of the scanty rainfall vouchsafed by nature, will no doubt push a little westward the fringe of compact settlement; but by far the greater part of the region will always be dry and barren, and useful only for pasturage.

THE RECENT STOCK-BREEDERS' CONVENTION.

The National Live Stock Feeders' and Breeders' Convention which convened in St. Paul January 11 has served a very important purpose. It not only brought together a large number of prominent stock breeders, but its deliberations set forth the importance of the stock industry and its adaptability to every portion of the Western and Northwestern country. It is through such educational agencies that farmers may be influenced to look upon stock-raising as an important and very necessary auxiliary to agriculture, not as an industry which belongs to stockmen alone.

In making Theodore L. Schurmeler, of St. Paul, president of the association, the convention honored one of the most public-spirited men in the Northwest, a man who will labor with zeal and intelligence to promote the best interests of the organization. Incidentally the convention will be of considerable benefit to St. Paul. It has drawn attention to the city's great stock-yards and packing plants, which create a market for the stock product of all contiguous territory, and it has given a new impetus to stock-breeding and again directed attention to the importance of adopting more economical methods in farming.



THE Milwaukee Road is building two new trains, to run between the Twin Cities and Chicago, that will rival for elegance and comfort those of the Burlington. The old sleepers of the Milwaukee have always been very comfortable, and their contrivance of electric lights to shine over your shoulder, so that you can read your newspaper or your novel, is a special advantage. However, this enterprising road does not want to be behind any rival, even in so unimportant a matter as the outside look of a passenger train.

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GENERAL Emigration Agent Mott, of the Northern Pacific, has issued an attractive pamphlet about farming and new settlement in the counties of Wells, Foster and Eddy, North Dakota. Mr. Mott has placed a large number of new people in those counties during the past two years, and it is gratifying to read of their success and their satisfaction with the country in their own letters, which are given in the pamphlet. Many of these settlers are Dunkards from Indiana and Illinois. The actual profits which some of these industrious people have made in farming are remarkable. For example, a Carrington settler paid for his land and for all the expenses of cultivating it from a single crop of flax, and had a cash balance of \$2,188.80. The pamphlet is well illustrated with pictures of the houses, barns, churches and schools in the new settlement, and with family groups of settlers.

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ALL movements in the railway world are now in the direction of consolidation and combination. Three of the great Pacific lines have lately been brought into harmonious relations—the Union Pacific, the Northern Pacific, and the Great Northern. The era of rivalry and rate-cutting is evidently closed. We are at the beginning of a new era in railway affairs, which will witness the formation of great regional systems formed of a multitude of roads operating in the same belt of country—in the Northwest, the Southwest, the Middle West, and the South and the East, for example. What will the public have to say through the State Legislatures to this massing of railway power? That will no doubt depend upon the wisdom and public spirit shown in the management of the new systems. If the railroads serve the public faithfully and keep on reducing rates, the people will have no reason to complain. The new regime involves the closest economies in operating, and the lowest possible fares consistent with the maintenance of the properties in good shape and the earning of a moderate return on the money put into the roads.

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THE beautifully colored stone found near Townsend, Montana, and brought east by E. B. Northrup, of St. Paul, is to be made commercially valuable by two New York companies, one of which will cut and polish the stone for mantels, wainscoting and other interior architectural work, while the other will grind it up for mineral paints. This stone is absolutely unique. It is not a sandstone or an onyx; it is petrified clay. No one can tell how it received its brilliant colors. Perhaps the most remarkable

features about it are the pictures of landscapes found in it. Some of these impressions of natural scenes in Montana are so distinct and truthful that it seems as if nature must have had some method of photographing the actual surroundings upon the rocks. Mr. Northrup has spent two years in bringing this stone into public notice, and success has at last rewarded his efforts.

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I RECEIVE a good many inquiries by letter and in person from people who want to know where to go in the State of Washington to get good farming land. The question is difficult to answer in a few words, because Washington is not a prairie State, like North Dakota, where the land is nearly all about equally good. More than half the area is mountainous, and perhaps half of the open and tolerably level country is a desert, where irrigation is essential to the cultivation of the soil. There is still a considerable amount of excellent wheat-land for sale in the Palouse Country and in the Walla Walla Country. The Hypotheken Bank, in Spokane, has fifty or sixty improved farms in the former region which it offers at low prices and on easy terms. For small farming and fruit-growing, I recommend the irrigated lands of the Yakima Valley. There are good openings in the prune-growing colonies near Vancouver, on the Columbia River. The State is very large, the settlement is everywhere comparatively sparse, and a practical farmer will not need to long for an opening that will suit him.

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AT the Chamber of Commerce banquet in St. Paul, on January 14, Mr. A. B. Stickney made an interesting talk on the basis of the next boom, which he said would be a three-per-cent interest rate. He said that the panic of 1873 had forced the interest rate for permanently invested capital down from eight to five per cent, and this had led to the building of our railroads, our mills, and our business blocks. The panic of 1893, he continued, would eventually bring the rate down to three per cent, and this would open the way to a new movement of development in this city and throughout the Northwest. Mr. Stickney has long been a close student of political economy and national finance. He proved to be a cheerful prophet at the feast, for he told his colleagues and their guests that "there can be no doubt that we have entered upon one of those periods of prosperity which follow commercial crises," and that business will improve from year to year for several years at least. To make permanent prosperity, he thinks the country needs a good banking system, consisting of strong parent banks with many branches. The lowest rates of interest, he ex-

plained, cannot be carried to the farmer by usury laws, nor in any other way that has yet been discovered or devised, except by a system of banks.

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THE thirty-first anniversary of the St. Paul Chamber of Commerce was worthily celebrated by a banquet at the Ryan Hotel on the evening of January 14. The event may be taken as marking the beginning of a new epoch in the affairs of the city. During the recent years of business depression nobody has cared about celebrating birthdays and anniversaries, but now that times have become notably better and the prospect looks favorable for another era of growth and prosperity it was generally felt by our business men that the creation of the chamber, in 1867, ought to be properly commemorated. This institution has labored for the good of the city for a generation, and is still alive and vigorous. When it was organized, St. Paul had only 16,000 inhabitants; today it has over 150,000 people. This is a good deal to accomplish in the working years of one man's lifetime. But not only has St. Paul built herself up into a city that is admired for its beauty, comfort and health as well as for its business achievements; it has been a focus of civilization and enterprise from which settlement has gone out Westward for over a thousand miles. It has been pre-eminently the gateway city through which have poured hundreds of thousands of settlers destined for new regions farther west. The mission of this city is by no means fulfilled. It stands now at the beginning of a new career of growth and business activity, and its future achievements will outstrip all those of the past.



A. B. STICKNEY, PRESIDENT CHICAGO GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.



Waukesha's new hotel will cost \$13,000.

Menasha is going to have an elegant public library building.

Neenah is negotiating for a large new hotel and opera-house.

The new Christ Episcopal church in La Crosse will cost not less than \$30,000.

New projects for business buildings and manufacturing plants in Wisconsin towns are numerous.

Marinette is forming a \$75,000 brewing company. The plant's annual capacity will be 30,000 barrels.

The Northwestern Beet Sugar Company has raised funds for the erection of a 400-ton factory at Merrillan. Work is to be begun at once.

The building operations for 1897 in Sheboygan exceeded those of 1896 fifty per cent in number and 100 per cent in amount. The number was between 200 and 250; the total expenditure is not reported.

The Milwaukee statisticians figure a total of \$4,663,560 to represent the building operations of 1897. This is an increase of \$108,536 over 1896 on exclusively new work. More than half the entire amount, \$2,734,737, went into residences.

Plans have been adopted for the Stevenson Science Hall for Lawrence University, in Appleton. The building will be two stories, with basement and attic, 80x100, of cream brick, and will cost complete about \$30,000.

The Marinette and Menomine Electrical Company has been organized with a capital stock of \$200,000. The company intends to improve the power at Chapple Rapids on the Menomine River, and will furnish power to street railways and a paper-mill. The improvement will cost \$150,000.

Minnesota.

Winona has raised \$35,000 for a new hospital.

A broom factory is to be established in Lake City.

New Prague's improvements the past year foot up \$65,000.

Rush City's improvements last year figure close to \$55,000.

The public and private improvements at Red Wing for 1897 foot up \$140,000.

Albert Lea men are going to organize and operate a \$30,000 cracker factory.

Ortonville has voted a \$15,000 bond issue for water and electric light service.

The corrected total for Pine City's local improvements for 1897 are valued at \$88,000.

Lac qui Parle is proud of its new co-operative creamery. It is pronounced a model plant.

The U. S. Senate has passed a bill appropriating \$175,000 for a public building at Fergus Falls.

Chatfield will have a new 100-barrel flour-mill, Detroit has a new mill, and Mazeppa is after a seventy-barrel mill.

Kimball, a thriving town on the Soo line in southwestern Stearns County, wants a bank and is trying to have one started.

The knitting factory at Northfield has got into good hands at last and has been started up again. There are eighteen machines in the factory, employing twenty-four hands. The daily output is worth about \$130.

Here are the totals of public and private improvements in a few good Minnesota towns last year: Elmore \$25,000, St. James \$100,000, Anoka \$75,000, Cottonwood \$40,000, Olivia \$40,000, Waseca \$85,000, Chatfield

\$62,000, New Ulm \$200,000, Eden Valley, \$15,000, Lindstrom \$12,000, Wheaton \$35,000, Osakis \$30,000, Sherburn \$48,000, Avoca \$12,000, Stillwater \$40,000, St. Peter \$60,000, Mountain Lake \$33,000 and Fulda \$44,000.

It is said that there are 150 individuals or firms engaged in logging operations in the vicinity of Duluth this winter. They have all the way from one to eight camps each, and it is reported that a total of 15,000 men are employed.

Winona's improvements last year amounted to about half a million dollars. Residences head the list with \$80,000, the railroads contributed \$74,000, and river improvements added \$55,000. The balance is distributed among all classes of buildings.

North Dakota.

Enterprising Grafton is after a new hotel to cost \$20,000.

Fargo's new Episcopal church will be of stone, and cost \$30,000.

The State University at Grand Forks is so crowded with students that larger accommodations must be provided.

Langdon is active. Two two-story brick blocks and two single store buildings are among the contemplated improvements for next spring.

A new \$6,000 co-operative creamery is being built in Ransom. That is what the State needs—more creameries, more cows, more good live stock of all kinds. And it is getting them rapidly.

Grand Forks is indomitable. Fires only seem to encourage new and loftier enterprises. New buildings are already being contracted for to occupy the sites made vacant by the recent losses. These include business blocks and another fine hotel, to take the place of the one burned.

The Fargo Forum says that large bottling works are to be established there. The capital will be \$25,000. A full line of carbonated goods will be made, principally for the jobbing trade. It will be in the hands of experienced men, and there is no reason why it should not prove a successful enterprise.

Since the month of April, 1897, there have been 41,000 acres of land disposed of to actual settlers in Foster, Eddy and Wells counties, all sold to settlers who will go on the lands next spring and begin improvements. The sale of lands in the three counties is divided as follows: Foster, 15,000 acres; Eddy, 11,000 acres; Wells, 15,000 acres.—*Bismarck (N. D.) Tribune.*

South Dakota.

Yankton is after a starch factory.

Aberdeen's flour-mill will have its capacity increased to 300 barrels per day.

A modern three-story brick hotel will be among Redfield's new enterprises for 1898.

Brookings is working hard to secure the establishment of a \$250,000 beet sugar factory there.

It is said that a vein of onyx of a very desirable color has been discovered near Rapid City.

Asbestos, in large quantities and of good quality, is reported near Keystone, Pennington County.

The co-operative creamery at Volin has been so successful that its patrons now talk of establishing a co-operative flour-mill.

Great building progress was made by Lead last year. It included six good business blocks, one church, and scores of houses. Lead is about three miles from Deadwood.

Numerous enterprises are talked of for the development of Black Hills mining properties this year, and the coming season promises to be an unusually active one.

A Deadwood report states that the Golden Reward Consolidated Mining & Milling Company will erect a large matte smelter early next season. It will be modern in every particular and will cost about \$150,000.

Montana.

Over 600 car-loads of beef and mutton, and 1,500,000 pounds of wool, have been shipped from Chinook, Mont., this year.

The Great Falls Leader says 350,000 head of lambs and wethers have been shipped out of Northern Montana this year, to the great feeding-grounds of the lower States, for which Montana ranchmen have received about \$700,000 dollars.

Ex-State Land Agent James M. Page informs the Helena Herald that the outlook in Madison County was never better. "It is a fact well known," he says, "that Madison County contains the broadest area of gold-bearing ores and placers of any county in the State, and since silver has become of less value than formerly our gold quartz prospects have been attracting more attention, causing quite an influx to our population. Now that the Northern Pacific branch from Whitehall to Twin Bridges is prospectively near and work on the same is being rapidly pushed, it is an incentive to increased interest in our mineral development."

The Billings Times says that this promises to be a good year for that town. It avers that "the construction of the State irrigation canal to reclaim the Billings bench with an expenditure of probably \$200,000 in labor, and the opening to settlement of 25,000 or 30,000 acres of first-class farming land, and the influx of settlers attracted by it, will be enough to keep the town pretty busy. Then the location of the Sisters' Hospital is a sure confirmation of the belief in the stability of our city. Its construction and that of the numerous private buildings now under plan will give plenty of employment to labor. Fifty dwellings, renting from \$15 to \$25 a month, would be rented before the roofs were on by our present population, without counting on the inevitable increase from immigration."

The Helena Independent announces as a fact that the smelter contemplated at Horr will be built during 1898. There is already a coking plant at Horr, and in the making of coke at present the coal gas is allowed to go to waste. It is the intention of the builders to utilize the gas in the smelting of ores. Other advantages of the location at Horr, are that there is a great quantity of limestone and plenty of iron for fluxing. J. H. Conrad, of Horr, said to the Independent: "It is an ideal location, and we think that it is just the place for a custom smelter. The capacity of the works at first will not be more than 200 tons a day, and they will cost about \$150,000. We will have to have additional ovens anyway, and the new ones will be put in with reference to using the gas in the smelting of ore." Mr. Conrad was asked whether there would be any waste of the product if it should happen that the work of the smelter exceeded the demand for coke. "If that should happen," he said, "the coke made on the ground would be used in the smelter. The situation of Horr makes it seem probable that the works will have a chance to smelt ore from Butte as well as along the main line of the Northern Pacific Railroad. The situation of the smelter itself will be perfect for the economical handling of ore. The smelter will be built this year."

Idaho.

The Boise Basin District is said to be in an unusually prosperous condition. It is attracting a good deal of Eastern and Colorado capital, and the coming season will be a very active one.

Weiser is going ahead rapidly. It is a supply point for the Seven Devils Country.

The Pocatello Tribune says that a local vinegar plant is about ready to turn out 100 gallons of pure malt vinegar per day. It is said to be the first plant of the kind in Idaho.

During the past season there has been a steady flow of capital into the Florence District. It is expected that six mills will be in operation there within a year, in the place of a couple twelve months ago. The Poorman Company has ordered a mill put in next spring, and other companies are getting in shape to reduce ores regularly. This means a largely increased pay-roll at Florence for the season of 1898.

Boise has a number of fine stores and brick business blocks, a handsome capitol building, a city hall of neat architecture, the Columbia, one of the finest theaters in the West, and scores of pleasant homes, surrounded by large, well-kept lawns. Many of the buildings are supplied with hot water, carried in pipes from wells located in the foothills back of the town. The natatorium is a great resort, a sort of summer attraction the year round, and is well patronized. The whole Boise Basin, and the mining districts for miles back in the mountains, make Boise their trading point.

Oregon.

Union has a new woolen-mill.

Pendleton is in the full tide of prosperity. Big wheat crops and high prices have put the whole country on its feet again, and the town is benefited accordingly.

Baker City boasts the fact that there is not a desirable dwelling-house vacant at the present time, although over 100 such houses have been erected the past year. Several brick business buildings are in course

of erection, and all the store buildings are occupied. It is supported by rich mines and by stock and grains. The leading mines are the Bonanza and the Flagstaff. A correspondent says that if either of these mines had the stamp-mill capacity of the Treadwell mine, on Douglas Island, Alaska, it would be difficult to estimate the output.

Sheep-raising is the leading industry along the Oregon Short Line, and the men who bought sheep for almost nothing two and three years ago have almost doubled on their investment.

The increase in the value of sheep and wool has swelled the profits of Morrow County over \$1,000,000 above last year, to say nothing of the increase in the price of wheat and other products.

The citizens of La Grande raised \$80,000 which they offered to any company as a subsidy for the construction of a beet-sugar factory. The proposition was accepted by Utah and Oregon capitalists, and arrangements are now being made to have the plant ready for work next season. This is likely to prove one of the most far-reaching and important industrial enterprises ever undertaken in the State. Should the venture be successful, and local sugar-beet tests and all other conditions are so favorable that a failure cannot be anticipated, other sugar plants will doubtless be established in Oregon and Washington and the industry be made one of great prominence.

Washington.

Capitalists have been interested in a project to build and operate a salmon cannery at New Whatcom with a capacity of 2,000 cases a day.

According to the building inspector's records, Seattle expended \$360,000 on buildings last year, an increase of eighty per cent over 1896.

The vegetable dryer plant at Coupeville is running day and night and employing about thirty persons. The capacity is about four tons a week, and the demand grows right along.

The Republic mine in Eureka District on the Colville Reservation is improving every day. A five-foot vein is now being worked which assays \$200 to the ton. A cyanide plant will probably be installed at once.

There are fifteen creameries in Kittitas County that do a custom business. The output from these creameries is about 600,000 pounds a year, and they pay out to the farmers who supply them with milk about \$12,000 a month.

Washington coal-mines produced 2,000,000 tons of coal last year. The coal production of 1897 exceeds the production of the best previous year by 280,000 tons, according to the annual report of State Mine Inspector Norton, who declares there is a greater coal area in that State than in Pennsylvania.

It is reported that the Everett and Monte Cristo Railroad Company will take steps to utilize the water-power from Granite Falls. The scheme includes the lighting of Snohomish and Everett and other towns along the route, the running of the Everett and Lowell street-car lines, and the furnishing of power to Everett and Snohomish manufacturing enterprises.

The Aberdeen Recorder says: "With several hundred men employed in the construction of our million-dollar jetty, all the lumber and shingle-mills in operation, and a large number of men busy building the new schooner at the West & Slade mill, with the numerous other industries running, the people of Aberdeen certainly have reason to believe that the new year will bring happiness and prosperity."

Word has been received of a rich strike in the Independent mine at Silverton. The main body of ore has been reached in the lower tunnel at a distance of between 400 and 500 feet from its mouth. The vein is from eighteen inches to two feet in thickness, and the rock is pronounced the richest ever found in the Cascades, every pound of which will pay to ship and smelt, without being concentrated. This information comes from the superintendent and is believed to be accurate.

An industry has been established at Whatcom which promises to revolutionize the Coast trade in fruits and vegetables. It is a fruit and vegetable evaporating plant. The Blade of that town says that the plant runs day and night and employs fourteen persons, the daily output being 700 pounds of potatoes, 100 pounds of onions, and many soup vegetables. All kinds of vegetables and fruits can be dried—such as sweet potatoes, bananas, turnips, beets, parsnips, carrots, cabbage, celery, parsley, pumpkins, squash, pears, peaches, apples, etc. Since the plant was put in operation last November, over ten tons of potatoes

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and dried vegetables have been shipped, and the company has more orders ahead than can be filled in the next two months. It is the intention of the company to establish two more plants in time for next season. A ton of raw potatoes will net 400 pounds of dried, granulated food. Some of these evaporated products were recently exhibited in the office of this magazine, and they were so appetizing in appearance that one could easily be induced to eat them raw. Wholesome and nutritious, light in weight and non-perishable, they are just what miners, campers and woodmen want, and constitute excellent food for any one.

Canadian Northwest.

A \$30,000 office building is among Winnipeg's contemplated improvements.

The number of homestead entries in Manitoba and the Territories during 1897 was 2,400, as compared with 1,600 in 1896.

News has reached Rossland of a fine strike of free gold on the Big Patch claim, which is located on Porcupine Creek, B. C. Specimens of the ore are heavy with free gold, and if there is enough of it as rich it will run up into thousands of dollars to the ton.

The Winnipeg Free Press says that a mining deal has been consummated with English parties by which a mine situated in the Saw Bill District in Ont., passes from the hands of residents of the city and others to English capitalists, the consideration being about \$500,000.

A report comes from the Arlington on Spencer Creek, in the Slovan Country, B. C., to the effect that a vein eleven inches wide has been struck which carries ore that is phenomenally rich. The strike was at a depth of 125 feet, and the assay returned 1,120 ounces in silver and sixty-six per cent lead.

The Le Roi mine at Rossland, B. C., paid another \$50,000 dividend on January 12. This makes the total paid by the mine \$750,000. As the company has completed its Northport smelter, it is expected that from now on the regular monthly dividends of \$50,000 will be continued without interruption.

Consumption Cured.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of consumption, bronchitis, catarrh asthma and all throat and lung affections, also a positive and radical cure for nervous debility and all nervous complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this magazine, W. A. Noyes, 320 Powers' Bldg., Rochester, N. Y.

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OFFICIAL NAME "SKAGWAY."—F. W. Vaille, assistant superintendent of railway mail service, has been notified that a post-office has been established at "Skagway," Alaska. The spelling of Skagway, as decided by the post-office department, will probably be adopted by everybody and the old style, "Skaguay," and "Skagwa," will be dropped. The office is not a money-order office, but it probably will be before long.

THE CHINESE OF BAKER CITY.—The Pendleton (Or.) *East Oregonian* is authority for the statement that Baker City has the largest Chinese population of any point in Eastern Oregon. Upward of 300 Mongolians reside there. They have some forty buildings devoted to their business and living purposes. Three of these structures, including two of the seven mercantile establishments, and the joss-house, or temple of worship and Masonic lodge, are two-story brick edifices.

DEATH OF WALKING CLOUD.—"Walking Cloud," or "Silent Hunter," named for his soft tread while hunting, died recently at his home on Peleork Creek, eight miles north of Black River Falls, Wis., aged 101 years. He was one of the progressive Indians of the tribe and was in good circumstances, possessing a comfortable home and a well-tilled farm. He was a noted

hunter in his younger days, and a great brave. It is a saying in the tribe that he was the only Indian who could walk up to a sleeping deer, so silent were his footsteps.

HOW ALASKA INDIANS TRAP BEARS.—William B. Otis, who has been all over the world as one of the ichthyologists in the employ of the Government, has just returned from his second visit from studying the fish in Alaskan waters. He says that strips of whalebone are folded into the shape of the letter N, enveloped in "hunks" of fat, and frozen that way. The fat thus prepared is put in promising spots for great white bears to devour. Along comes one of the monsters, and gulps a lump down whole. The gastric juices melt the fat and eat away the strings of tendon with which the whalebone is bound; the whalebone springs out straight across the animal's stomach, and presently it dies. Next day Mr. Esquimaux comes along and gathers in a bear-skin worth several quarts of whisky.—*Portland Oregonian*.

CANADA'S WILD DOGS.—In the great woods of the Turtle Mountains, according to the Cypress River *Western Prairie*, of Man., a number of dogs which once belonged to the half-breed population have become quite wild and live by catching and devouring rabbits. In the first instance the dogs were collies, and, as they have been some years in the woods, they are increasing in numbers and are wonderfully fleet as well as wild and watchful. They protect themselves from the cold by burrowing in the ground, just as wolves do, generally selecting a situation that is sheltered by brushwood and fallen timber. Settlers are in the habit of capturing the young puppies, when a den can be found. The pups are quite easily tamed and prove superior dogs, as they are possessed of

amazing swiftness, energy and intelligence, and are very obedient and self-reliant.

FORETELLING THE WINTER.—People from Alaska say that the Indians there can foretell the approach of winter, and much about its severity, with great accuracy. The managers of the Yukon steamboat lines employ Indian pilots. These pilots, they say, are very faithful and attentive to their duties, but as soon as they think winter is coming, they quit and go home. Sometimes they quit when the weather is fine and nobody else can see the slightest indication of winter's approach. The only notice they usually give is: "Winter come soon. We go home," and they go. Winter invariably and promptly follows. This year it came unusually early.

THE LAND OF LITTLE STICKS.—Between where the forest region ends and the barren land begins, far north of Manitoba, is what is known by the Indians as the "Land of Little Sticks." The trees are mere bushes, the birch being one. Beyond is the tundra or the land of the musk-ox and the reindeer, that extends to the coast of the Polar Sea. In the Land of Little Sticks there are abundance of rabbits. About this season of the year the caribou or bush reindeer leave the plains or barren lands and seek the shelter of the woods where they spend the winter, and in doing so they remain a short time in the Land of Little Sticks. There are a few wolverines in that desolate region, and sometimes a white partridge or a snow owl may be seen. It is there that the snow-birds spend the summer and build their nests. At certain seasons there are more deer than exist in any other portion of the Dominion, and the land of the wood buffalo is not very far away.—*Cypress River (Man.) Western Prairie*.

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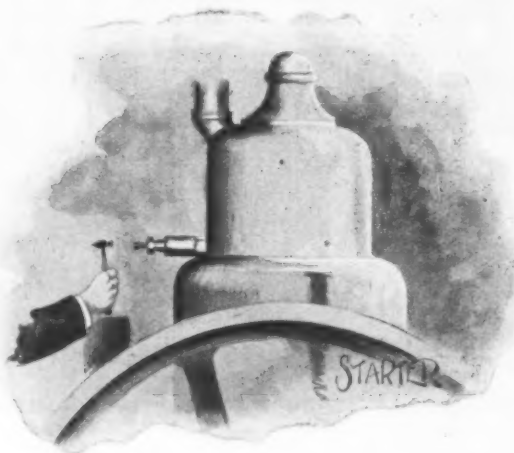


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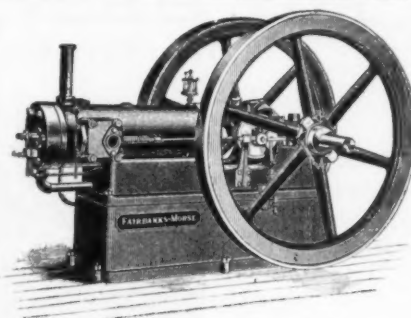
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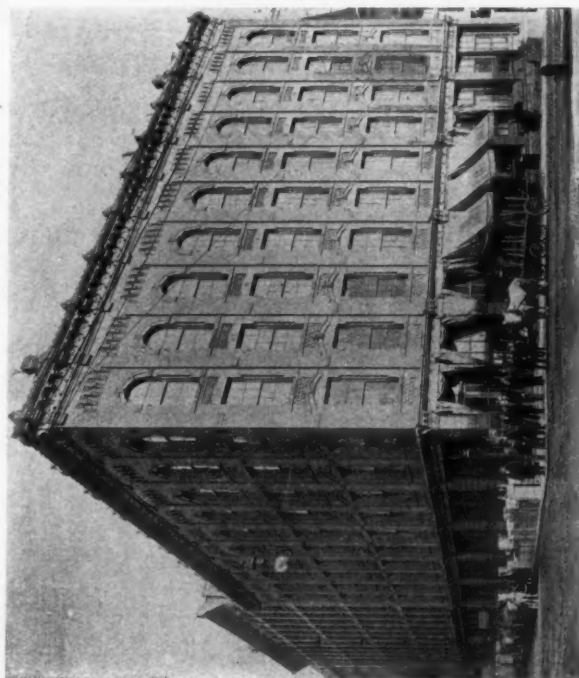
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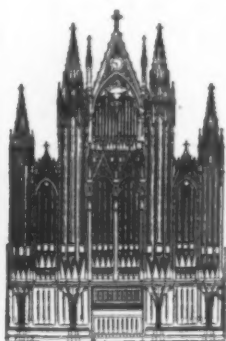
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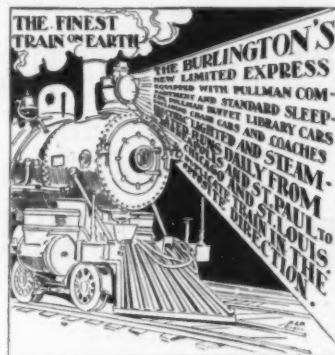
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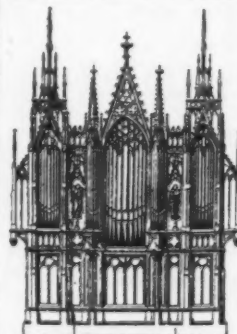


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The November NORTHWEST MAGAZINE comprises an interesting collection of choice literature, and the illustrations are all in keeping with the fine finish, singular enterprise and Western spirit of this representative magazine.—*Whatcom (Wash.) Blade.*

"Resolved: That this Board extends a sincere vote of thanks to Mr. E. V. Smalley of St. Paul for his splendid article illustrating the city of Minneapolis, which appeared in the December number of THE NORTHWEST MAGAZINE."—*Minneapolis Board of Trade.*

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HE WAS THE LAW.

Judge J. L. Lewis of San Jose, Cal., was in the city yesterday. He was appointed early in the seventies, by President Grant, as one of the associate justices of the Territory of Washington, coming here from Iowa. After presiding upon the bench for several years, with distinguished ability, he resumed the practice of law in Seattle, and acquired a great deal of valuable property in different parts of the State. He has now retired from the active practice of his profession and is living in San Jose, where he is interested in a bank and has a law office just to keep in touch with legal matters.

It is related of Judge Lewis that when he first came to the State there was much curiosity to size up the new judge. He held court at Port Townsend.

The court-room was crowded. As he opened court he said, in effect:

"Mr. Sheriff, I understand that within a stone's throw of this court there is one of those dreadful blots on the morals of the community known as a 'mad-house.' You will proceed at once, Mr. Sheriff, to arrest the inmates and bring them before this court."

The order created the utmost astonishment. Word was carried hurriedly to the "mad-house," and the inmates and visitors had disappeared by the time the

man's attorneys were fighting for time. The court-room was packed. Judge Lewis granted a short time for the parties to amend their papers.

"Are you ready?" he asked Mr. Coleman's attorney. Some excuse was made, and a little further time was granted.

"Now are you ready?" inquired the court.

"Yes; we are ready, your honor."

"Are you sure you are ready?"

"Yes, your honor."

"Then Mr. Denney is entitled to judgment with costs. Mr. Coleman has no case whatever to stand upon."

And so the famous suit involving thousands of dollars was disposed of in fifteen minutes.

No one ever questioned his honesty, but his brusque methods made him numerous enemies, and they tried in many ways to get him off the bench. They had him resigned several times, but he didn't resign until his term ended. He was unquestionably one of the ablest judges ever on the bench in Washington.—Tacoma (Wash.) Ledger.

ALASKA ANECDOTES.

A Washington paper says that among the men in Seattle who have sojourned for a time in Alaska, perhaps none is better acquainted with the actual condition of affairs roundabout Skaguay and Dyea than George Rice. From his practical knowledge of the trails, Mr. Rice often smiles serenely at the strange stories that are palmed off on an unsophisticated public.

"For instance," said Mr. Rice the other day, "I was in Victoria and chanced to pick up a New Zealand newspaper. Imagine my surprise to see substantially the following statement:

"The real starting point for the Klondike is Spokane.



THE SHORT OF IT.

"What! I am under petticoat government? Ridiculous!"

"But we hear that your wife makes it hot for you whenever you are out late at night."

"Absurd! Why, I never dare go out at night at all."—Fliegende Blätter.

sheriff arrived. That officer soon returned and reported the fact to the court.

"Mr. Sheriff," said Judge Lewis, sternly, "you will proceed with a sufficient force and burn that 'mad-house' to the ground."

This order fairly paralyzed the crowd. The habitués of the "mad-house" were a power in the town. The illicit revenue supported many people.

"Call a halt on the judge, or they'll assassinate him," was whispered; and, appreciating the gravity of the situation and the desperate character of the men, one of the prominent men of the town ventured to inquire by what law the court thus summarily ordered the destruction of other people's property.

"I am the law," replied Judge Lewis, pointing his fingers toward his own breast.

The judge followed the matter up promptly by giving all the men who were living with Indian women notice that they must be married within a given time or be prosecuted. "There is no doubt," said the speaker, "that this action did much to purify the atmosphere of Puget Sound."

One of his most noted decisions was in the famous Coleman-Denny suit. It had attracted widespread interest by reason of the prominence of the parties.

Eminent council were engaged on both sides. Cole-

man's attorneys were fighting for time. The court-room was packed. Judge Lewis granted a short time for the parties to amend their papers.

There the traveler takes a canoe, by which he voyages to Vancouver, B. C. At the latter point he takes a sailing vessel direct to Dawson City."

Then the crowd around Mr. Rice smiled quietly.

"What is still worse," continued Mr. Rice, "I was in Tacoma, the other day, and I saw a man exhibiting a patent sled, whose virtues he was extolling. 'It can be taken all to pieces,' he said, 'and readjusted into useful articles of furniture. Here, you see, you can knock it down and with a simple rearrangement you can make a bed out of it. Knock it down again and put it together in another shape, and here, you see, you have a handy hat-rack.'

"Now, gentlemen, just fancy a hat-rack in Alaska!" And then the crowd around Mr. Rice smiled aloud.



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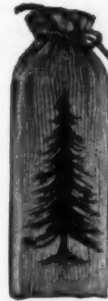
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Summer's Sunshine

In the Land of Flowers may be enjoyed next Saturday, if you take the new tourist sleeping-car for Los Angeles, California, leaving every Tuesday via Chicago Great Western Railway, Kansas City and the Santa Fe route. These through tourist sleeping-cars are provided with everything necessary for comfort on a long journey, including bedding and fresh linen, two large toilet rooms and a range for light cooking, the car being in charge of a porter whose sole duty is to keep it clean and attend to the wants of the passengers. The Maple Leaf-Santa Fe through car, in addition to lowest rates, affords the advantage of the shortest line and quickest time, coupled to which is the fact that it is not necessary to travel on Sunday. The car leaves Minneapolis every Tuesday morning, passing through Dodge Center, Hayfield, McIntire, New Hampton, Sumner, Oelwein, Waterloo, Cedar Falls, Reinbeck, Marshalltown, Des Moines and intermediate stations to Kansas City, arriving at Los Angeles at 8:30 o'clock Saturday morning. Low round-trip rates are now in effect, good ninety days for return. The through car is also available for the eastward journey, leaving Los Angeles every Tuesday morning and arriving in Minneapolis Saturday morning. Agents of the Maple Leaf route will be pleased to answer inquiries of intending travelers, or letters may be addressed to C. J. Brooks, Travelling Passenger Agent, St. Paul, or to F. H. Lord, General Passenger and Ticket Agent Chicago.

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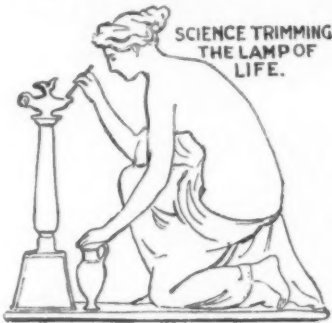
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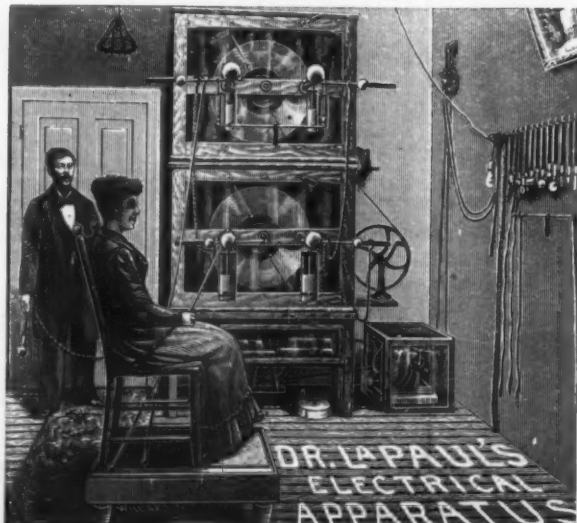
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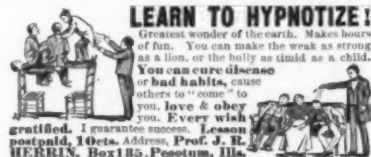
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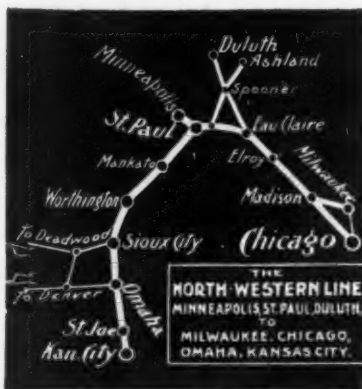
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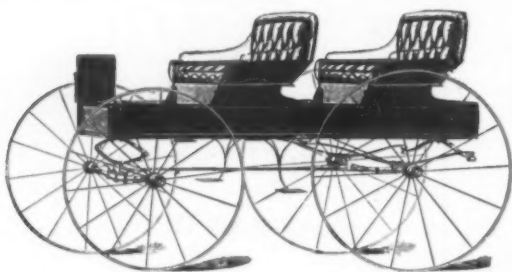
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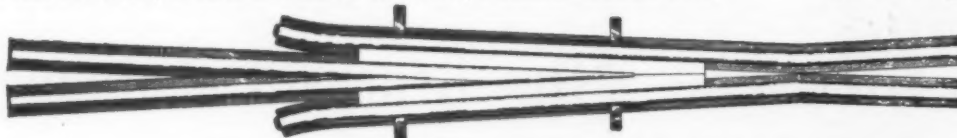
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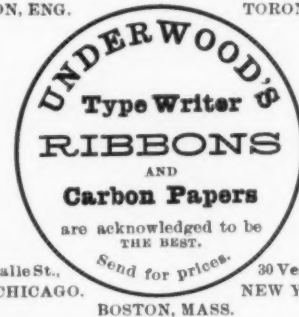
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Why is the center of a tree like a dog's tail? Because it is farthest from the bark.

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He—"I never contract bad habits."

She—"No, dear; you always expand them."

Smythe—"Stocks and bonds entirely, eh? No landed estate?"

Smyle—"No; all watered."

Sonny—"What is a meteor, mamma?"

Mamma—"Well, it's just one of your father's excuses for staying out late at night."

Billy—"Your dad hez quit smokin', ain't 'e?"

Johnny—"Yep. How'd you know?"

Billy—"I seen 'im kickin' the dog."

Mabel—"George, you must not squeeze my hand so hard!"

George—"Mabel, have you never read in the Book of Ecclesiastes, 'Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might?' Don't try to stop me again, you impious girl. The Scriptures are dead against you."



THE HOG IN THE PULLMAN.

"Excuse me, my dear sir, but would you kindly allow me to spread a handkerchief under your feet?"

"Yes, but take a clean one."—*Fliegende Blätter*.

Mrs. Sevres—"Jane, did you break the china plate?"
"Yes'm. You got awfully fooled on that plate, mum. It's a weak 'un. It broke the first time I dropped it."

A Wisconsin woodchopper, who goes about his work with a huge bell attached to his back, says that he means to take no chances. "No fool shoots me for a deer," says he.

Burglar (Watchnight)—"Your money or your life."
Sleepy Hubby (whose wife is seeing the old year out)—"Take both, but for the love of heaven don't wake the baby!"

Doctor—"Why is it, Pat, that so many Irishmen are Democrats?"

Pat—"Faith, I don't know—unless it's because so many Democrats are Irish."

Little Willie—"Pa, what's an anchorite?"

Pa (who has just been elected a member of the Seaside Yacht Club)—"An anchorite? An anchorite, my boy, is the fellow that tends to the anchor."

"You and I must be related," said the baby's sweater to the monkey-on-a-stick.

"How's that?" asked the monkey.

"We are both baby jumpers," said the small sweater. And the wax-doll laughed until her complexion rolled down her cheeks.—*Harper's Bazar*.

She—"When I marry I hope my husband will die young; I want to be a widow."

He—"How barbarous! How cruel!"

She—"Oh, don't worry; it won't be your funeral."

Mrs. Bunting (near sighted)—"What is the object of the notice on this tree?"

Bunting (who sees that it reads, "Beware of the dog!")—"It is put there that he who reads may run."

Jones—"Hear about Jagson's surprise party?"

Lane—"No. Did they surprise him?"

Jones—"Guess it was rather the other way. He came home in a hack, with two men to bring him into the house."

Professor—"In time, we hope, man's ingenuity will devise a glass strong enough to enable us to discern life upon the planet Mars."

Student—"Yes; but will the human stomach be able to retain it?"

"I should like to go to my mother-in-law's funeral this afternoon, sir," said the bookkeeper to the proprietor.

"So should I," replied the proprietor, as he turned to his desk again.

"But you are too young," pleaded the anxious mother. "No girl should marry before her mind is fully formed."

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Four-year-old Barbara went to church with her two sisters and came home crying.

"What is the matter, dear?" inquired her mother.

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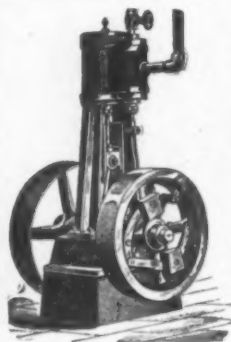
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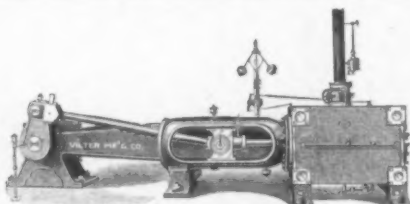
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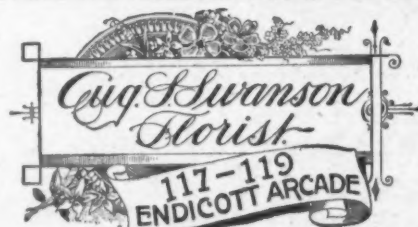
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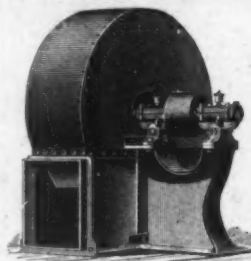
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